



Nripendra Misra,  
Principal Secretary to  
Modi, quits PMO

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Kamal Nath meets  
Sonia amid reports  
of a tussle in M.P. unit

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Hong Kong democracy  
activists get bail,  
protest march banned

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India adopts cautious  
approach after  
early wickets

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NEARBY



**Situation contrary to  
Centre's claims: Yechury**

NEW DELHI

The ground situation in Kashmir is “completely contrary” to what the Narendra Modi government has been saying, CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury said after returning from Srinagar where he met his ailing party colleague Yusuf Tarigami. Mr. Yechury refused to give any further details since the Supreme Court had laid down the condition that he should not indulge in politics during his trip.

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**Delhi court extends CBI  
custody of Chidambaram**

NEW DELHI

A court for CBI cases here on Friday further extended for three days the CBI custody of former Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram in the INX Media case. Extending the remand till September 2, special judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar said: “Given the fact that the record is voluminous and accused needs to be confronted, remand is extended till September 2.”

NEWS ► PAGE 12

**DTF's Ray wins DUTA  
polls for a second term**

NEW DELHI

The Democratic Teachers' Front candidate Rajib Ray won a second term as president of the Delhi University Teachers' Association in the elections which concluded on Thursday.

CITY ► PAGE 3

**YASH 2020  
UPSC 2020 Prelims  
Orientation Batch**  
► Comprehensive Test Series  
► Expert Guidance Sessions  
**Starting from 4<sup>th</sup> October**  
Chanakya Mandal Pariwar, D/N, New Delhi  
Registration - 8308637036, 8308637032

# 10 public sector banks to be merged

Big banks will have enhanced credit capacity and global competitive edge, says Nirmala Sitharaman

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

In what comes as the second wave of the government's efforts to revive the economy, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday announced a slew of banking reform measures, including merger of 10 public sector banks into four entities. This would take the number of banks in the country from 27 in 2017 to 12, Ms. Sitharaman said.

These bank mergers, and the ones already carried out, will lead to the creation of big banks with an enhanced capacity to give credit, she said. These big banks, she said, would also be able to compete globally and increase their operational efficiency by reducing their cost of lending.

“We have chosen these banks for the mergers on the basis of ensuring that there is no disruption in the banking



## Strength in numbers

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a series of mergers involving public sector banks on Friday. The move cut down the number of such banks from 27 in 2017 to 12. A look at the banks that will be merged:

Banks to be merged	Size of merged entity	Total business
Punjab National Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank	2nd largest PSB	₹18 lakh cr.
Canara Bank and Syndicate Bank	4th largest PSB	₹15.2 lakh cr.
Union Bank, Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank	5th largest PSB	₹14.6 lakh cr.
Indian Bank and Allahabad Bank	7th largest PSB	₹8.08 lakh cr.

services, and that the banks should benefit from increased CASA [current account savings account] and greater reach,” Ms. Sitharaman said. “The banks that are being merged with each other run the same or very similar platforms, and so there will be no disruption in their activities.”

The largest of the mergers announced is that of Punjab National Bank with Oriental

Bank of Commerce and United Bank. The amalgamated entity – to be called Punjab National Bank – will become the second-largest public sector bank in India, after the State Bank of India. It will also become the second-largest bank in India in terms of its branch network, with a combined total of 11,437 branches.

The second merger announced was that of Canara

Bank and Syndicate Bank, which would render the merged entity the fourth-largest public sector bank. The merger also has the potential to lead to large cost reductions due to network overlaps, Ms. Sitharaman said, adding that the similar business cultures of the two banks would also facilitate a smooth transition.

The third merger is of Union Bank of India with And-

## Minister outlines funds allocation

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday outlined a plan to recapitalise public sector banks, providing the approximate allocation breakup for ₹55,000 crore of the ₹70,000 crore promised in the Union Budget. ► PAGE 15

hra Bank and Corporation Bank, the Finance Minister said, which would make the merged entity the fifth largest public sector bank. This merger would have the potential to increase the post-merger bank's business by 2-4.5 times, she added.

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‘REFORM MEASURES FOR BANKS  
ALREADY KICKSTARTED’ ► PAGE 15

BIG BANK THEORY ► EDITORIAL

## Terror funding case: NIA summons Delhi doctor

He was asked about ties to Yasin Malik

VIJAITA SINGH  
BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN  
NEW DELHI

Senior cardiologist Upendra Kaul was summoned on Friday by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) as a witness in the 2017 terror funding case, a senior official told *The Hindu*.

Dr. Kaul, chairman of Bata Hospital in south Delhi, was asked to appear at 10.30 a.m. He told *The Hindu* that he was questioned for over half-an-hour and asked about his SMS exchange with one of his patients, Kashmir separatist leader Yasin Malik, now lodged in Tihar Jail.

Dr. Kaul said, “I was asked about a message which said INR 2.78. I explained that INR stood for a medical term and not Indian National Rupees 2.78 million, etc. I explained that Yasin Malik is just another patient of mine... Here I would like to add that it is not like Malik is my childhood friend. In fact, in 1996, it was the Government of India which brought him in for treatment for heart ailment and like any other patient he needs follow-up, which I have been doing here or sometimes in Kashmir...”

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

## A mounting problem



**No end in sight:** A worker bringing plastic bottles to a junkyard near Chandigarh on Thursday. These bottles are segregated and dispatched for recycling. A nationwide ban will be imposed on plastic bags, cups and straws from October 2. ■ AKHILESH KUMAR

## Anxious Assam readies for headcount results

Those excluded need not worry, govt. will help in filing appeals: CM Sonowal

RAHUL KARMAKAR  
GUWAHATI

Five years, four deferred deadlines and ₹1,220 crore later, the outcome of one of India's largest headcount exercises – the Supreme Court-monitored National Register of Citizens (NRC) of Assam – is scheduled to be published on Saturday. The final list of citizens will be uploaded on the NRC website around 10 a.m. An official statement with the data will also be issued around the same time.

The State has been anxiously awaiting the final NRC that is envisaged to quantify the number of illegal immigrants. The anxiety surrounds the number of people likely to be excluded



**On their toes:** Security personnel patrol a sensitive area in Morigaon district of Assam on Friday. ■ RITU RAJ KONWAR

from the 3.29 crore applicants. More than 41 lakh people were excluded from the draft NRC in two phases, of whom 3.61 lakh did not reply for inclusion.

The unease is more

among people of Bengali origin. While international organisations and rights groups have panned the government for targeting migrant Muslims, Home Department officials said the

exclusion list could have more Hindus.

‘Propaganda’

Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said certain forces were carrying out propaganda. “The exercise under the supervision of the Supreme Court will soon reach a conclusion, and I am sure everything will be peaceful. I want to assure those who will be left out that they should not worry. The government will provide help [to file appeals], and if there is any issue, they can get in touch through the district administration,” he said.

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‘SITUATION NORMAL’ ► PAGE 12

## Cong. leader appears before ED

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar on Friday appeared before the Enforcement Directorate to record his statement in a money laundering case.

The ED summoned him again after the Karnataka High Court on Thursday dismissed his plea against the earlier summons.

The ED had opened its probe in September last year based on a chargesheet filed by the Income Tax Department alleging tax evasion and hawala transactions.

DETAILS ON ► PAGE 8

## West Bengal passes Bill to prevent, punish mob lynching

High time Centre, other States followed suit, says Mamata

SHIV SAHAY SINGH  
KOLKATA

The West Bengal Legislative Assembly on Friday passed a Bill to prevent and punish incidents of mob assaults and lynching. The West Bengal (Prevention of Lynching) Bill, 2019, was tabled, discussed and passed in the House during the day with legislators of the Left parties and the Congress joining the members of Treasury benches in support.

Describing lynching as “social malice”, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee appealed to the Centre and other State governments to bring similar legislations. “The Central government should have brought a law against it [mob lynching]. But they are yet to do so. So we are bringing this law in our State to fight against this social evil,” the Chief Minister said.

The legislation also states that “nodal officers” will be appointed who shall “monitor and coordinate prevention of lynching”. It proposes a jail term from three years to life for those involved in assaulting and injuring a person. In the event of the victim's death, the perpetrators

can be punished with death sentence or rigorous life imprisonment. The Bill, while defining terms like “lynching” and “mob”, also says that a West Bengal Lynching Compensation Scheme may be framed under this legislation. Congress MLA and Leader of the Opposition Abdul Mannan termed the Bill “revolutionary”.

Representing the BJP, party MLA Swadhin Sarkar said: “We fear this law will be used to target the Opposition parties. Even normal political clashes will be termed lynching using this law.”

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‘MODI-MADE DISASTER’ ► PAGE 12

## Law student can stay in Delhi, says Supreme Court

The woman, who was traced in Rajasthan, had alleged sexual harassment by ex-BJP MP Chinmayanand

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to the wishes of a woman law student, who had disappeared after levelling charges of sexual harassment against ex-BJP MP Swami Chinmayanand only to be traced in Rajasthan, to stay back in Delhi.

After a closed-door session with the woman, Justices R. Banumathi and A.S. Bopanna also directed the Delhi police to safely bring her parents too to Delhi from their native Shahjahanpur in Uttar Pradesh.

The court asked the Regis-

trar to keep the woman and her parents communicated till the court takes up the matter again on Monday.

The court had suo motu taken up a letter from a group of women Supreme Court lawyers anxious about the safety of the woman. They had sought her production before the apex court.

On Monday, the Uttar Pradesh government counsel informed the Bench that the woman had been found in Rajasthan and was being taken to Shahjahanpur. The lawyer said the police convoy bringing the woman had already reached Fatehpur Sikri.



Swami Chinmayanand

But the Bench insisted that the woman be produced before the Supreme Court during the course of the day.

The government counsel, after consulting with the State police officers, returned to the Bench, saying the woman

could be brought here in under three hours.

Justice Banumathi said the Bench would wait for the woman to reach the court in order to interact with her in-camera. The interaction happened late in the evening.

The Shahjahanpur police had on Tuesday lodged an FIR against Mr. Chinmayanand after the student went missing following her allegation in a video clip that he had been harassing her. The woman also spoke about threats to her and her family's life in the video clip.

Her father had filed a complaint with the police, accus-

ing Mr. Chinmayanand of sexually harassing his daughter, a charge refuted by the BJP leader's lawyer, who claimed it was a “conspiracy” to blackmail him.

The woman's father had alleged that she went missing at the behest of the 72-year-old BJP leader, who heads the Mumukshu ashram. She is a postgraduate student in one of the colleges run by the ashram.

U.P. Director General of Police O.P. Singh on Friday said necessary legal action was being taken.

(With inputs from Omar Rashid)

## Canal completed in 42 years, washed away in 24 hours

Jharkhand administration probe blames rodents for breach

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE  
RANCHI

It took 42 years to build a Jharkhand irrigation project, and then within 24 hours of its inauguration, the canal meant to provide water to 85 villages across Giridih, Hazaribagh and Bokaro districts was washed away.

The State administration has found rodents to pin the blame on.

The irrigation project in Giridih district was dedicated to the people by Chief Minister Raghuraj Das on Wednesday. By Thursday, a major breach developed in the canal, causing extensive flooding in several villages.

“The initial probe suspected ‘rat holes’ causing damage to the canal,” said a government statement released on Friday.

Arun Kumar Singh, Additional Chief Secretary of Water Resources Department, tweeted that following the breach in the canal and damage caused to the crops,

a high-level team, led by chief engineer of advanced projects in the department, has been constituted. The reports are to be submitted within 24 hours. The repair works are on.

In 1978, the then Governor of undivided Bihar, Jagannath Kaushal, had laid the foundation of the project, but due to several reasons the project got delayed. The cost of the project also escalated from ₹12 crore in 1978 to ₹2,500 crore.



**IN BRIEF**  
**IIT-D to set up science and technology facility**  
NEW DELHI  
Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi has been chosen by a high-level committee constituted by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) to set up a science and technology infrastructure facility, which can readily be accessible to academia, start-ups, manufacturing units, industries and R&D labs. The institute on Friday said that it will be called 'Sophisticated Analytical and Technical Help Institute' (SATHI).

**Air quality of Delhi-NCR**

Delhi	101	Gurgaon	64
Ghaziabad	93	Faridabad	48
Noida	81	Greater Noida	104

0-50 Good 51-100 Satisfactory 101-200 Moderate 201-300 Poor 301-400 Very poor >401 Severe

AIR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 P.M. YESTERDAY (AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS) [SOURCE: CPCB]

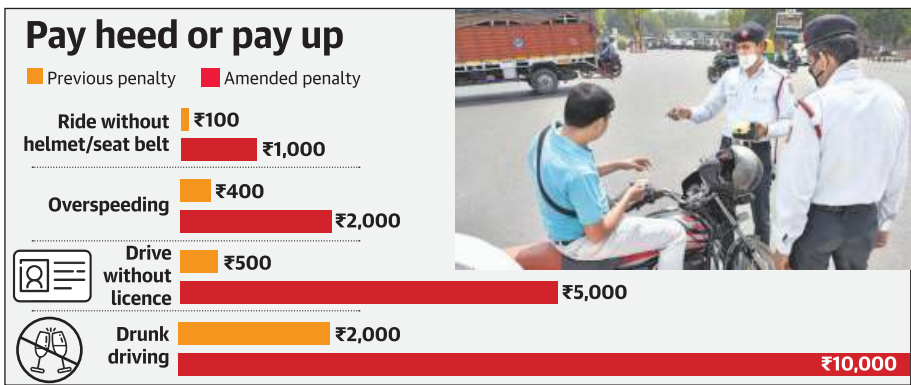
**DELHI TODAY**  
**Dance:** The second day of 23rd edition of Parampara Series will feature a Odissi dance by Sujata Mohapatra and Carnatic vocal by Trichur Brothers at Kamani Auditorium, Mandi House, 7 p.m.  
**Exhibition:** "Divine Intervention", a solo painting exhibition by Sangeeta Kumar Murthy at Convention Centre Foyer, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 11 a.m.-7 p.m.  
**Exhibition:** Colourful Dreams, 7th solo show of paintings by Mohi Jaya at All India Fine Arts & Craft Society (AIFACS), 1 Rafi Marg, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.  
**Exhibition:** "IhLED in Perspective", a solo photography show by Rajan Bhatt at Delhi 0 Delhi Foyer, IHC, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.  
**Culture:** Mahanyasa Purussara Ekadasha Rurda Japam, Maha Abhishekam to Ganapathi, 7th Anurkha Krama Archan Deeparadhana, Gakara Sahasranam Archan, at Sri Karunya Maha Ganapathi Temple, Mayur Vihar Phase - 2, 8 a.m. (Mail your listings for this column at cityeditor@delhi.ahindia.co.in)

# Higher penalties: traffic police anticipate anger, dip in challans

Amended Motor Vehicles Act is likely to be implemented from September 1

**HEMANI BHANDARI**  
NEW DELHI  
Delhi Traffic Police officers are anticipating anger from motorists as the increased penalties in challans under the amended Motor Vehicles Act is expected to be implemented from September 1. A traffic policeman posted near Ghazipur said that most of those who are stopped for traffic offences either do not have cash or are not willing to pay. "People fight for ₹100 or ₹500. How will they shell out ₹1,000 for not wearing a helmet or ₹10,000 for drunk driving? There will probably be a lot of arguments. We have full support of the local police and we will dial 100 [Police Control Room] in case we are troubled," he said. A woman constable posted near Vivek Vihar said, "We'll have to come prepared to face the anger in the initial days".

**Court challan**  
Another ASI posted near Connaught Place recalled how an offender, a truck driver from Haryana, tore his uniform when he was stopped for jumping red light.



**People fight for ₹100 or ₹500. How will they shell out ₹1,000 for not wearing a helmet or ₹10,000 for drunk driving? There will probably be a lot of arguments. We will dial 100 [Police Control Room] in case we are troubled**

TRAFFIC POLICE OFFICER

"Whoever will not have the money to pay, will be issued a court challan, wherein, the offender will produce himself/herself before the magistrate after which the court will decide the

matter," he said, adding that the move might lead to increased number of court challans as opposed to people preferring to pay in cash currently. Traffic police officers on the ground are also anticipating a decline in the number of challans because of the increase in the amount of traffic violations.

**Decline in deaths**  
"While I understand that the amount is high but it is a very good move because people will be scared or at least think 10 times before violating traffic rules. Who will want to pay ₹5,000 for not having a driving licence or ₹25,000 for a minor found driving," said an ASI posted

near Barakhamba Road. "We expect it will also lead to a decline in deaths in accidents involving bikes because people will wear helmets". When contacted Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Narendra Bundela said that the officers are awaiting a government notification to be able to issue challans to be paid in cash. However, the police will issue revised challans to be paid in court from September 1 irrespective of the notification. "We have conducted a briefing with traffic police officers on Thursday and will hold another one on Saturday. We don't anticipate a backlash," he said.

## DCW seeks action against app promoting prostitution

**STAFF REPORTER**  
NEW DELHI  
The Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) on Friday issued notices to the Delhi Police and Telecom Ministry over reports pertaining to a mobile application which allegedly "promotes prostitution".

Taking cognisance of reports on the application, the women's commission wrote to authorities seeking withdrawal of the application. DCW chairperson Swati Malwal said, "The Ministry should immediately block the application and the police should register an FIR."

## Power cuts add to Manesar industry woes

Problem started a month ago: MIWA

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
GURUGRAM  
Unannounced power cuts and fluctuation seem to be the order of the day at the Industrial Model Township in Manesar here for the past month, causing the industry to suffer. The Manesar Industries Welfare Association (MIWA) has now written to the Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam (DHBVN) and raised concerns about poor power quality and frequent outages. Sanjeev Kapoor, another industrialist, said the DHBVN was generating maximum revenue from this industrial belt but when it came to providing infrastructure to the industry, they had nothing. DHBVN Sub-Divisional Officer Kuldeep Yadav claimed the problem existed only for a day on Thursday after a conductor of 220 KV power line from Daulatabad was damaged. He said the power was alternatively arranged from Badshahpur. However, it could not take the entire load and hence, there were frequent cuts and fluctuation.

blem. The industry in Manesar has sophisticated machines and fluctuations cause the chip inside them to burn. It costs a fortune," said Mr. Gaiind. He said the industry was already facing a slowdown and the loss of expensive machinery and production through generators was putting more financial burden on the entrepreneurs. Manmohan Gaiind said the industry had round-the-clock power supply during the summer this year, but the problem started a month ago with repeated unannounced power cuts and fluctuations. "We do not mind a couple of hours of declared power cuts during the day, but it is the undeclared power cuts, that is the real nuisance. Fluctuations causing damage to the machines is even a bigger pro-

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**E-open Tender Notice**  
E-Open Tender Notice No- ELECT-CRW-HRT-OT-4, Date: 28.08.2019 For and on behalf of President of India, Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer, Carriage Repair Workshop, Harnaut invites open e-tender for the following work as detailed:- 1. **Name of the work with its location:** Provision of 36 nos. mobile charging point in 384 nos. GS/GSCN & provision of 18 nos. mobile charging point in 166 nos. GS/GSCN coaches at CRW/HRT during POH. 2. **Estimated cost of the work:** Rs. 1,07,82,876.16/- (Rupees One crore seven lakh eighty two thousand eight hundred seventy six and sixteen paise only) 3. **Earnest Money to be deposited:** Rs. 2,03,900.00/- (Rupees Two lakh three thousand nine hundred only) 4. **Date & Time for submission of tender and opening of Tender:** The tender has to be submitted online on <http://www.ireps.gov.in> up to 12.00 hrs on 25.09.2019 and it will be opened on the same day at 12.30 hrs. 5. **Website particulars, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen:** Detailed tender notice, eligibility criteria, etc could be viewed on <http://www.ireps.gov.in> & offer to be made through same website. Full details of notice can be seen on notice board of Chief Workshop Manager, Administrative Building, Carriage Repair Workshop, Harnaut, Nalanda, Bihar-803110. Any corrigendum will be uploaded on the same website if required. Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer Carriage Repair Workshop/Harnaut PR/1103/HRT/Elec/T/19-20/56

**WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SHORT LISTING OF APPROVED CATERING PRODUCTS (PAD & PACKAGED DRINKING WATER BRANDS FOR SALE FROM CATERING UNITS ON WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
No. WCR/HQ/C-924/Short-listing Date: 27.08.2019  
Applications are invited in the prescribed format from the interested manufacturer companies/firms for short-listing/registration of catering products (PAD items such as biscuits, namkeen, chips, cold drinks, cakes etc. & Packaged Drinking Water bottles) for sale from the Catering Units in Railway premises (except the units run by IRCTC) on WC Railway. The application form may be obtained from the office of Principal Chief Commercial Manager, WC Railway, GM Office, Indira Market, Jabalpur (M.P.) by hand by producing money receipt of ₹ 2,500/- If the form is downloaded from the Railway website i.e. [www.wcr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.wcr.indianrailways.gov.in), the application should be submitted along with a Demand Draft of ₹ 2,500/- issued in favour of FA & CAO, WCR, Jabalpur or Money Receipt issued from Booking Office. Detailed information along with eligibility criteria and proforma of application forms are available in Principal Chief Commercial Manager's Office, WCR, Jabalpur and on the website [www.wcr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.wcr.indianrailways.gov.in). The application forms duly filled along with requisite documents should be submitted or sent through Registered Post by 01.10.2019, addressed to: Chief Commercial Manager (Catering & PS), GM's Office, Indira Market, Jabalpur (MP) - 482001. खत यात्रा के दौरान शिकायत हेतु 138 एवं सुरक्षा हेतु 182 पर संपर्क करें

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
No.- Com/ATM/MGS/19 Dated - 26.08.2019  
On behalf of president of India, DRM (Commercial), E.C. Railway, Mughalsarai invites duly completed & sealed tender on Single Packet Tendering System from Public Sector Bank/Scheduled Commercial Indian Bank for installation of ATMs in Railway premises & railway colonies for 05 years. Tender may also be sent through Registered Post/Speed Post/Courier Service which must be received in time i.e before 15.00 hrs. on 24.09.19.  
**Detailed information :-**  
1. **Name of work :** Provision of ATMs in Mughalsarai division. 2. **Cost of tender form :** Rs. 1000/- 3. **Reserve price :** Nil. 4. **Earnest Money :** Nil. 5. (a) **Date & Time for submission of tender (a)** 24.09.19 from 12.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. (in tender box) (b) **Opening of tender :** (b) 24.09.19 at 16.00 hrs. 6. **Website particulars,** Notice Board location where complete details of tender can be seen and Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased :- [www.ecr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ecr.indianrailways.gov.in) and tender form can be purchased from Office of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, E.C. Railway, Mughalsarai on date 04.09.19 to 23.09.19 between 10.00 hrs. to 17.00 hrs. (except closing days of office). Tender documents will also be sold on 24.09.19 upto 12.00 hrs. only.  
Divinl. Railway Manager (C), E.C.Rly, Mughalsarai PR/01106/MGS/COML/T/19-20/44

**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY**  
**E-Tendering Tender Notice**  
Open e-tenders on two packet system through E-Tender notice No. MCW/IZN/OT/76 & MCW/IZN/OT/77 are invited by Sr. Divisional Mech. Engineer (C&W), N.E. Railway, Izatnagar for and on behalf of President of India for the following work : **S.No.1-Tender Notice No.: MCW/IZN/OT/76, Description of work:** General Furnishing, Carpentry, Plumbing and Passenger amenity attention work during Maintenance of BG Coaches at Coaching Depot Tanakpur & Kathgodam for a period of two years, **Estimated Value of works:** ₹ 1,56,63,349.55, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,28,400/-, **Cost of tender forms:** ₹ 5,000/-, **Period of work:** Two Years from the date of commencement of work, **S.No.2-Tender Notice No.: MCW/IZN/OT/77, Description of work:** General Furnishing, Carpentry, Plumbing and Passenger amenity attention work during Maintenance of BG Coaches at Coaching Depot Kasganj for a period of two years, **Estimated Value of work:** ₹ 1,63,14,159.14, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,31,600/-, **Cost of tender forms:** ₹ 5,000/-, **Period of work:** Two Years from the date of commencement of work, **Date and time for closing of E-tender:** 20.09.2019 at 15.00 Hrs. • Tender may submit its E-tenders online up to 15.00 hrs on date 20.09.2019. • Please go to the Indian railway website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) to see the complete details and upload/submit the E-Tender. **Divisional Mechanical Engg. (C & W) CPRO/Mech-103 N.E.R.,Izatnagar About any passenger amenity complain SMS on Mobile No. 05794845955 "NEVER TRAVEL ON ROOF AND FOOT BOARDS"**

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA**  
**Public Works Division Aurangabad**  
**E-Tender Notice No. (20) Of 2019-2020**  
E- Tender for the following works in "B-1 Form" for the 5 (five) Works is invited via online E-Tendering system from Company of Eligible Class by Executive Engineer Public Works Division Aurangabad (PH No.0240-2331174) on behalf of Public Works Department of Government of Maharashtra.  
Dates 03.09.2019 Time 11.00 To 09.09.2019 Time 18.00  
All details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Maharashtra e-Tendering Portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> on sub Portal of public works Department also on [www.mahapwd.com](http://www.mahapwd.com) pot-tal as per online tender Schedules.  
sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Public Works Division  
Aurangabad  
DGIPR/2019/2020/2460

**HOME DEPARTMENT (PORTS & TRANSPORT)**  
**MAHARASHTRA MARITIME BOARD**  
Indian Mercantile Chambers. 3rd Floor. 14 Ramjibhai Kamani Marg, Ballard Estate, Mumbai - 400 001  
Tel.: 022-22658375, Fax : 022-22614331  
Website: <https://mahammb.maharashtra.gov.in> Email : [ceommb@gmail.com](mailto:ceommb@gmail.com)  
**E-Tender Notice - (Year 2019-2020)**  
Main Portal: <https://mahatenders.gov.in>  
Departmental Portal: [www.mahammb.maharashtra.gov.in](http://www.mahammb.maharashtra.gov.in)  
Digitally signed E-Tender for following work is invited by Chief Executive Officer, Maharashtra Maritime Board, Mumbai, from Registered with Government of Maharashtra in appropriate class and having experience in execution of Marine related civil works, for following work in B1 Tender Form.  

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Cost of Tender in Rs.	Earnest Money Amount in Rs.	Blank Tender form amount in Rs	Time limit for Completion of Work
1.	Construction of Approach Road to Jetty at Bhardkhol, Tal. Shrivardhan Dist. Raigad.	4,32,02,571/-	2,16,500/-	2,360/-	18 Months (Including Monsoon)

The details can be viewed online and downloaded directly from the Government of Maharashtra E-Tendering Portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> on sub Portal of Home Department [www.mahammb.maharashtra.gov.in](http://www.mahammb.maharashtra.gov.in) from 29.08.2019 at 10.00 hours (IST) onwards.  
The right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason is reserved.  
sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Maharashtra Maritime Board, Mumbai.  
DGIPR/2019/2020/2419

# Delhi HC issues notice to Sports Ministry and Kabaddi Federation

Single-judge Bench had stayed the AKFI elections on Aug. 27

**STAFF REPORTER**  
NEW DELHI  
The Delhi High Court on Friday issued notice to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India (AKFI) on an appeal by the temporary president and vice-president of the federation against the order of a single-judge Bench of the court staying the elections of the AKFI.

The single-judge Bench had on August 27, stayed the elections of the AKFI on former player A.C. Thangavel's petition challenging the AKFI's three orders of August 7, 16 and 17 by which polls were notified by the administrator, electoral roll published and the objections raised by him dismissed without assigning any reasons. Before the single judge, Mr. Thangavel's petition said these orders were issued contrary to the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011, and the electoral roll had members who were not qualified to be a part of the electoral college.

The Friday's appeal filed by Kasani Gnaneshwar Mudiraj and K. Jagdishwer Yadav, AKFI's temporary president and vice-president respectively, stated that the single-judge's order is based on the ground that the electoral college, nominees of the affiliates from various States of the AKFI do not comply with the National Sports Development Code of India with respect to age and tenure. Their counsel argued that the code applies only to the national federation and not to the State federations. He said none of those who have been nominated for the elections are in violation of the sport code.

## Consumer forum tells realty firm to pay ₹22.6 lakh to flat buyer

The company failed to allot apartment in time

**STAFF REPORTER**  
NEW DELHI  
The State Consumer Disputes redressal forum here has directed Unitech developers to compensate a complainant by paying over ₹22.60 lakh for not delivering possession of an apartment booked in Noida within the stipulated period of time. Holding the developers deficient in services, the commission observed, "Present is a clear case of deficiency in service on the part of the opposite party [Unitech]. Complainant is legally entitled to seek refund of the money deposited by them with the [developer] along with appropriate compensation."

The directions came when the panel was hearing a complaint moved by Mathura resident Vidhu Goyal who alleged that despite paying over ₹22.35 lakh for booking an apartment in the project by Unitech, the developers had failed to allot the flat. "It is stated that the complainant was hoping that the developer would complete the construction within the stipulated time but the opposite party never updated the information related to the project to the complainant... It is stated by the complainant that he has put his hard-earned money with the hope to get the flat," observed the forum while noting the allegations in the complaint. An additional compensation of ₹25,000 was also directed to be paid to the complainant.

## Jaipur's LNMIIT team wins Delhi round of Cerebration Quiz

Qualify for the final to be held in Mumbai early next month

**AARUSHI AGGARWAL**  
NEW DELHI  
Aditya Chakraborty and Deepiyoti Kalita of Jaipur's LNMIIT won the Delhi round of the 17th edition of The Hindu BusinessLine Cerebration Quiz held at the Fortune Institute of International Business in Delhi, qualifying for the final to be held in Mumbai early next month. The yearly corporate-business quiz witnessed large participation from universities and corporations alike. Winners of six regional rounds compete in Mumbai at the national level. Delhi's quiz was held in two phases. The preliminary round of 20 questions saw participation from 61 teams while only six all-man teams qualified to play the final round. Tie-breaker round The nail-biting quiz ran into a tie-breaker round after three teams were tied at the end of the buzzer round. The first prize was clenched by two engineering students of the LNM Institute of Information Technology in Jaipur. Teams from Barclays and Ernst & Young finished as runners-up and second runners-up respectively. "We are business buffs,"



Aditya Chakraborty (left) and Deepiyoti Kalita – winners of The Hindu BusinessLine Cerebration Corporate Quiz 2019 – in New Delhi on Friday. ■SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR



said Aditya and Deepiyoti. Cerebrations Quiz is hosted by The Hindu Business Line and funded by the Union Bank. Talking about the inspiration for the Quiz, BusinessLine's K.R. Srivats said that the newspaper "is committed to engaging with corporations and business schools and Cerebrations, which brings out the best from corporations and business schools, is the ideal way to do it." On the Union Bank's involvement in the Quiz, Girish Joshi, deputy zonal head said, "Union Bank of India is a front-runner PSB and is always encouraging of events like the Cerebration Quiz."

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT**  
**GOVERNMENT OF UTTARAKHAND**  
**FINANCE SECTION-I**  
No. 646 /01(130) 2016/XXVII(I)/2019  
Dehradun, Dated : 29 August, 2019  
**PRESS NOTE**  
**10 YEAR UTTARAKHAND GOVERNMENT STOCK 2029**  
The Government of Uttarakhand is floating a 10 year loan in order to finance development schemes, such as those relating to Power, Agriculture, Irrigation and Industries for economic growth of the State. The Stock will be sold through the Reserve Bank of India by auction in the manner indicated in the finance department notification No. 645/01(130)-2016/XXVII(I)/2019, dated August 29,2019. The successful bidders will be required to make payment on September 04, 2019. Which will be the date of commencement of the tenure of the Stock. The loan will be repaid at par on September 04, 2029. The issue price will be Rs. 300.00 crore (nominal) interest at the rate determined by the Reserve Bank of India on the basis of bids received, will be payable half yearly. Interest in respect of the loan will be subject to tax under the Income Tax Act. 1961. Subscriptions for the loan can be made in the form of Cash/Bank Draft or Cheque and will be received at the public debt offices of the Reserve Bank of India at Kanpur and Mumbai. Details of the terms of loan are contained in Finance Department Notification dated July 26, 2019 referred to above, copies of which alongwith the application forms are obtainable from the receiving offices mentioned above. **Financial position of the Government of Uttarakhand** The Government's budget documents (which can be obtained from the website budget.uk.gov.in) give detailed information regarding the latest financial position of the state. Balance in the Reserve Funds : The balance at the credit of the Uttarakhand consolidated sinking fund as on March 31,2018 was Rs. 2484.3239 crore. **Debt position :** The total debt of the Government of Uttarakhand as on March 31, 2018 was of the order of Rs. 41014.9441 crores consisting of Rs. 9838.4101crores in form of Special Securities issued to National Small Saving Fund of Government of India Rs. 26662.2830 crores on account of State Development Loans, Rs. 3724.0215 crores representing loans from the Agricultural Credit fund of the National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development and rest includes Govt. of India loans. Assets of the Government : Against the outstanding public debt of Rs. 41014.9441 crores the assets of the State Government on March 31, 2018 are in the form of roads and bridges, Irrigation projects, Power projects, Departmental buildings and other capital projects.  
(Bhupesh Chandra Tiwari)  
Additional Secretary  
Government of Uttarakhand  
DIPR-UK-9085



IN BRIEF



JNU cancels nomination of Independent candidate

NEW DELHI  
The student committee for the Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union election on Friday said that Independent candidate Raghavendra Mishra, who had filed his papers to stand for the post of president, has been disqualified. The JNUSU EC said that it was found that a proctorial inquiry was carried out against him. Mr. Mishra's disqualification leaves five persons in the running for the post of president. Mr. Mishra, however, alleged that it was a conspiracy against him.

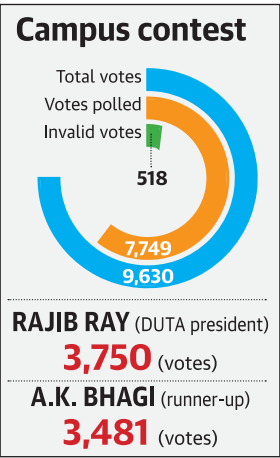
Will strengthen UG courses: IP University V-C

NEW DELHI  
The new Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIUP) Vice-Chancellor Mahesh Verma on Friday said that the focus of the university would be on strengthening its undergraduate programmes (UG) and introducing several skill-based courses that will help employment generation.

DTF's Ray wins DUTA polls for a second term

Democratic Teachers' Front wins fifth consecutive elections

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI  
Democratic Teachers' Front (DTF) candidate Rajib Ray won a second term as president to the Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA) in the elections which concluded on Thursday. With this, the DTF has won its fifth consecutive elections.  
Mr. Ray polled 3,750 votes while A.K. Bhagi of the right-affiliated National Democratic Teachers' Front (NDTF) secured 3,481 votes.  
In a statement, the DTF said, "...congratulating the entire teaching community of Delhi University for voting in large numbers in the DUTA elections and reposing trust in the DUTA's struggles in defence of public-funded higher education and social justice."  
**'Historic mandate'**  
It called the victory a "historical mandate" which was a rejection of the "disastrous government move to priva-



significant, given that despite little relief in the last two years, teachers had kept faith in the union. "As DUTA president, I have my work cut out. I have to enable all DUTA executive members, regardless of their political or ideological affiliations, the most confident and conducive ground to fearlessly raise issues and work for teachers."  
**Polls to executive panel**  
While the DTF won the presidency, it lost out to its closest rival in the elections to the executive committee. Out of 15 seats, the NDTF won four seats while the DTF got only three seats.  
Commenting on this, Mr. Ray said that it was important to see every election as its own organic exercise and this particular election was extremely hard fought and especially polarised. "It is to do with almost every such election taking place in the country these days," he added.

Students' groups up the ante, question DUSU poll procedures

Outfits hold protests over reforms, demand use of VVPAT

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI  
As elections to the Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) draw near, students' groups have upped the ante on campaigning and questioned election procedures. On Friday, the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) held simultaneous rallies in both South and North Campuses.  
Members of ABVP held simultaneous rallies in both South and North Campuses.  
▪ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

can also get education. We hope that the voice of the students will be heard by the university administration."  
**AISA members meet CEC**  
On the other hand, a delegation of the AISA met the Chief Election Officer (CEC) and submitted a memorandum expressing concerns over ensuring a free and fair elections. It demanded that the elections be held on ballot papers citing confusion over the mismatch of votes and suspicions over the of EVMs.  
Citing the issue of the use of fake degrees, Damini Kain, who is contesting the upcoming elections from AISA said "Last year, we saw the case of fake degree of ABVP's presidential candidate Ankiv Bai-soya, which clearly exposed the administration's complicit attitude in taking actions. We demand that DU administration take immediate steps in such cases in the future."  
The elections are set to take place on September 12 with the model code of conduct is in place.

Delhi youth held for making hoax terror call in Mumbai

High on alcohol, 22-year-old warned NIA and Mumbai police of terror attack on Friday

GAUTAM S. MENGLE  
MUMBAI  
A terror threat call sent the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Mumbai Police on a day-long tracking spree with the trail leading to a 22-year-old youth from Delhi who confessed to having made the call under the influence of alcohol.  
Around 10.30 a.m. on Thursday the NIA's Mumbai office received a call saying a major terror attack would occur in Mumbai on Friday

and the NIA could do whatever it could to prevent it. The information, sources said, was conveyed to the Mumbai Police and assigned to Crime Branch.  
"We put together a special team of officers from various units. Throughout the day, the team worked to map the cellular location of the number, both before the call and after. Meanwhile, we also got in touch with State and Central intelligence agencies to check if

the information was true, even partially," a senior officer with the Mumbai Police said.  
Finally, late on Thursday night, the Crime Branch team traced the caller to NESCO Exhibition Grounds in Goregaon (East) and detained him for inquiries. The caller, identified as Shubham Kumar, a 22-year-old from Mehrauli, Delhi, was later arrested.  
Confirming Mr. Kumar's arrest, Joint Commissioner

of Police (Crime) Santosh Rastogi said, "He confessed to have made the call under the influence of alcohol. He said he got the idea after watching the movie *Romeo Akbar Walter*. Kumar's cell phone Internet history reveals he had searched online about various subjects connected to terrorism. However, we have confirmed that it was a hoax call."  
*Romeo Akbar Walter*, a recent Bollywood film has John Abraham in the lead

role as an Indian spy planted in Pakistan by RAW.  
Mr. Kumar also told his interrogators that he left Delhi in a huff after an argument with his father over money, and had been in Mumbai for the last couple of days, sources said.  
He was later handed over to Vanrai police, who charged him with intent to cause, or which is likely to cause, fear or alarm to the public under the Indian Penal Code, officials said.

# SHIRTS

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• WAZIRPUR A-5, Near Richi Rich Banquet (Opp. Salimar Bagh)  
• JANAKPURI B-1/2, Main Najafgarh Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 543  
• NOIDA, Nirula's Sec-2, Near Metro Station, Sec-15, Noida, UP  
• LAJPAT NAGAR, 49, Main Ring Road, Adj. Haldi Ram, Near Moolchand Crossing

LAST OPPORTUNITY

Flat Price

## Sale

By Economy Sales

Till 9th Sept.

Police team in civil dress mistaken for child-lifters

Local officers rescued Delhi policemen

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
BAREILLY (UP)  
Mistaken for "child-lifters", a visiting Delhi Police team in plain clothes escaped mob fury here after the local police came to their rescue, officials said on Friday.  
The incident took place on Thursday when the team from Delhi's Welcome police station reached Bhura village in Bhojipura area in Uttar Pradesh in connection with a dowry case probe, they said.  
"The Delhi Police team was in plain clothes due to which some confusion might have arisen," Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police, Bareilly range, Rajesh Pandey said.  
The villagers mistook the Delhi Police personnel as "child-lifters" and surrounded their vehicles, the police said.  
After receiving informa-

**19-yr-old held for false report of child-lifting**  
NOIDA  
A 19-year-old man was arrested on Friday for reporting a false case of child-lifting in a village here, the police said. Accused Aneesh Singh, who runs a grocery store in Hoshiarpur village, had made the call on U.P. police's 100 emergency number around 10 a.m., an official said. "When the police response vehicle reached the village, it turned out that the report was false. The woman Singh had accused of lifting a child is mentally-challenged and was rummaging through a pile of garbage in the village," an official said. PTI  
tion about the situation, local police reached the spot in time. They checked the identity cards of the visiting team and defused the situation, they said.

Severely polluted days in a year reducing: CSE

But Delhi needs 65% cut in pollution levels

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI  
The number of severely polluted days in a year has reduced but to meet the air quality standards, Delhi still needs a 65% cut in pollution levels, according to a new analysis by Centre for Science and Environment, a Delhi-based NGO.  
"During 2011-14, the number of days with severe levels ranged between 33 and 52 days during the winter months. This has reduced to 20-34 days during 2016-18 winter," the CSE said in a statement.  
"Similarly, the number of severe plus AQI (air quality index) days ranged between 20 and 40 days during the winters of 2011-2014 and subsequently during the winter of 2016 to 2018-19, this reduced to less than 15 days," it said.  
The CSE said that the

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) air quality data shows that the three-year average annual PM2.5 level in 2016-2018 is 25% lower than that of 2012-2014.  
"However, CSE cautions that even after this reduction and stabilisation, Delhi faces the daunting challenge of 65% reduction from the current baseline to meet the clean air standards for PM2.5," CSE said.  
Anumita Roychowdhury, executive director, research and advocacy of CSE, said, "While this level of action has helped in stabilising the problem, much harder decisions and aggressive action at a scale is needed to achieve the 65% cut in PM2.5 to meet the clean air targets."  
Winter smog episodes are getting fewer but longer, according to CSE.

Delhi police submit chargesheet against AAP legislator Sharma

MLA had threatened and abused a woman officer of DCWD

SAURABH TRIVEDI  
NEW DELHI  
The Delhi police submitted a chargesheet against Aam Aadmi Party MLA Narayan Dutt Sharma in a case of threatening and abusing a woman officer working on a project under the Department of Women and Child Development (DCWD).  
The chargesheet has been submitted at a Metropolitan Magistrate court in Saket on Friday.  
A woman officer with DCWD in her police complaint on March 17, 2018, alleged that the MLA abused her during a phone conversation. Based on her complaint, an FIR was registered

under IPC section 506 (punishment for criminal intimidation) and 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) at Badarpur police station.  
**'Used filthy language'**  
In her complaint, the woman officer said that she had directed to vacate a building in Badarpur extension where children were taught as the building was in a dilapidated state. But Mr. Sharma wanted to continue the classes in the same building and opposed her decision as it falls under his constituency. She made him aware of the situation but he got infuriated and used filthy lan-

guage over phone.  
The complainant alleged that she had received a call from the office of AAP MLA Narain Dutt Sharma and over the phone, Mr. Sharma started shouting at her and used filthy language and threatened her.  
**Technical evidence**  
"During the investigation, we have recorded statements of the complainant and the people who were present around her when she was attending the phone call. We have other technical evidences in the case that have been added in the chargesheet," said a police officer.

**DELHI POLICE**  
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA

## That STRANGER knocking

### Could be DANGER lurking.

Never roll down your windowpane at a stranger's knock. It is a distracting trick to steal valuables from your car.

**OTHER SIMILAR TRICKS:**

- Dropping wallet/purse
- Money lying on the road
- Tyre puncture
- Boot/dickey open
- Oil leak
- Begging/asking for help

**SAFETY TIPS**

- Avoid keeping bags/possessions unattended on rear seat
- Avoid keeping valuables on dashboard
- Ensure all windowpanes are properly rolled up
- Check that doors are securely locked

E-mail to CP, Delhi at : [cp.amulyapatnaik@delhipolice.gov.in](mailto:cp.amulyapatnaik@delhipolice.gov.in)

Write to: CP, Delhi at P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi

FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL 100 TO SHARE INFORMATION CALL 1090

CM YK DP/9145/19 A ND-NDE



# Dengue cases down by 80%

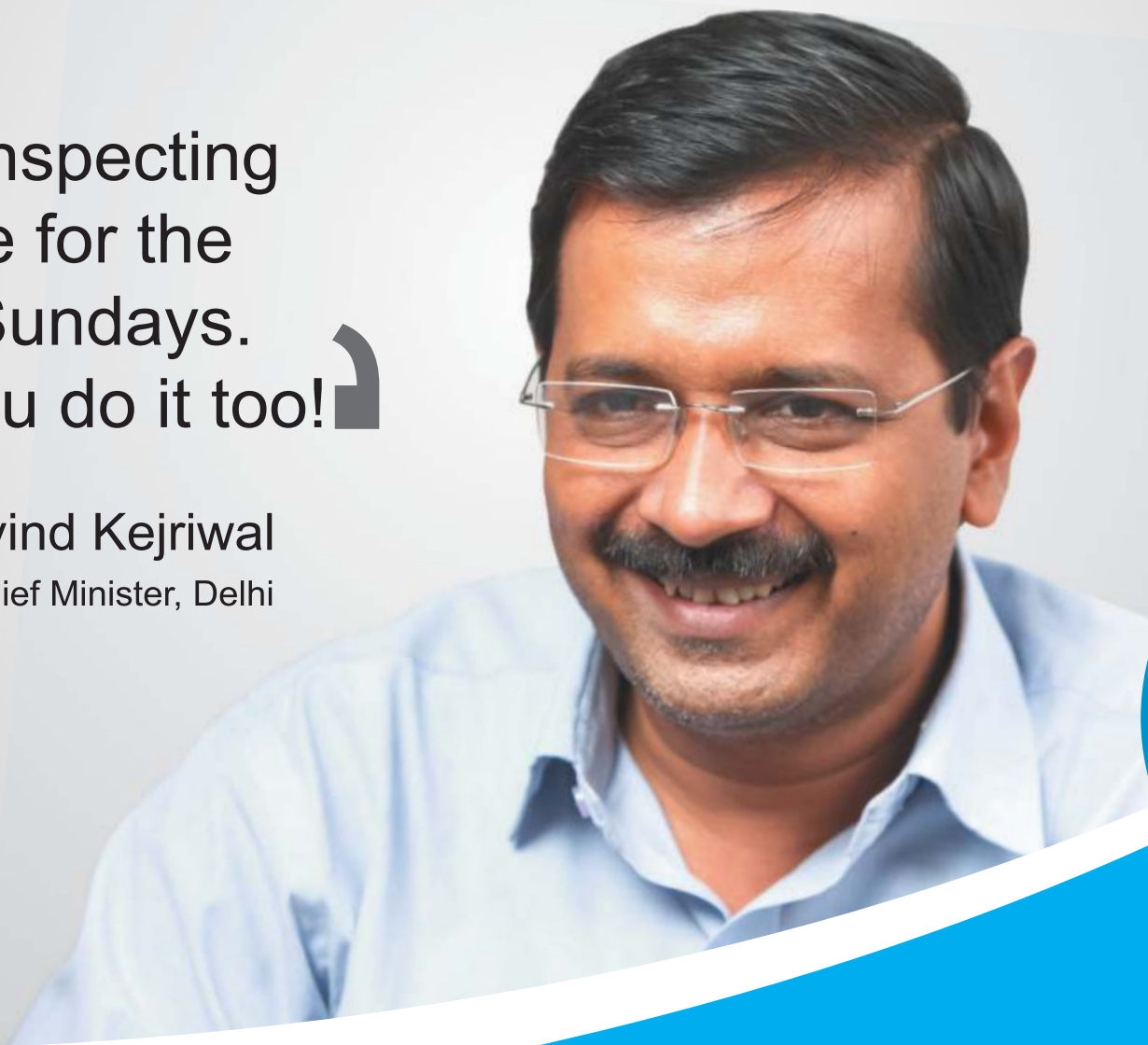
2015 : 15,867 cases

2018 : 2,798 cases

**Delhi is prepared once again!**

‘I will be inspecting my house for the next 10 Sundays. I hope you do it too!’

- Arvind Kejriwal  
Chief Minister, Delhi



डेंगू पे  
वार हर  
रविवार

Dear Delhiites,  
This year too, we have to come together to fight against Dengue.  
1st September onwards.

10 हफ्ते, 10 बजे, 10 मिनट  
हर रविवार, डेंगू पर वार।

## Know about Dengue

- The Dengue mosquito breeds in stagnant clean water.
- The Dengue mosquito grows from an egg into a mosquito in 8-10 days. If clean water is not allowed to stand, the mosquito will not be able to breed.
- The Dengue mosquito's flight range is approximately 200 meters. If someone in your house contracts Dengue, then it is likely that the mosquitoes have either originated from your or your neighbour's house. It is important to check your home and also that of your neighbours for your family's health and wellbeing.

## 10 minutes, every Sunday

- For the next 10 weeks, we all need to set aside 10 minutes at 10 o'clock every Sunday. Check flower pots, coolers, vases or anywhere inside or outside your house to make sure that clean water has not accumulated. If you find there is an accumulation of clean water, pour it out, change it or add petrol or oil to it.

## Just 10 Sundays

- Most Dengue cases occur in the monsoon or just after that. During this period, there are 10 Sundays. If we dedicate 10 minutes at 10 o'clock every Sunday for this, we can get rid of Dengue and Chikungunya. We need to spend less than two hours over 10 weeks. In the last five years, Dengue and Chikungunya have been brought under control, and this year, we will do it again!

## Let's come together!

- If you have inspected your house, do take a selfie inside your house and WhatsApp it to 8287972050. Together, we will make Delhi Dengue-free.

दिल्ली सरकार  
आप की सरकार

दिल्ली फिर कर दिखाएगी

दिल्ली सरकार  
आप की सरकार

Health Department, Government of NCT of Delhi



DELHI ☀️ Timings			
SATURDAY, AUG. 31			
☀️ RISE	05:59	🌇 SET	18:44
☁️ RISE	06:40	🌇 SET	19:44
SUNDAY, SEPT. 01			
☀️ RISE	05:59	🌇 SET	18:43
☁️ RISE	07:49	🌇 SET	20:24
MONDAY, SEPT. 02			
☀️ RISE	06:00	🌇 SET	18:42
🌁 RISE	08:55	🌇 SET	21:04

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	37	28
Safdarjang	37	28
Palam	38	27

**Delhi Palam Today**  
**37°C** Day will turn hot and uneasy humid. Short spells of rain and thundershower may in parts of the city and NCR.

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow**  
**36°C** Few spells of light to moderate rain/thundershower with gusty wind will affect. Night will turn comfortable.

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**THE HINDU**  
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IN BRIEF

Woman killed, 2 injured in building collapse

NEW DELHI  
An 18-year-old woman died and her husband and another person sustained injuries when a portion of a three-storey building in which they resided collapsed on Friday morning in outer-north Delhi's Samaypur Badli, the police said. A case has been registered against the house owner. The deceased has been identified as Poonam and the injured persons as Chhotu and Praveen Singh (30). Poonam's parents, who lived on the same floor, managed to escape unhurt.

70-year-old cancer patient kills self

NEW DELHI  
A 70-year-old man shot himself in west Delhi's Moti Nagar on Friday morning, the police said. A note left behind by the deceased has been recovered from the spot, they also said. Investigation revealed that he has been suffering from cancer for the past three-four years and was upset due to the same. The body was handed over to the family of the deceased after a post-mortem, the police added.

600 students take part in plantation drive

NEW DELHI  
In a plantation drive at Jahanpanah City forest, about 600 students from 12 private schools planted saplings on Friday. The plantation drive has been taking place since the last 5 years in Greater Kailash Assembly constituency, said AAP MLA Saurabh Bhargadwaj. "Over the last five years, we have planted around 3,000 trees here," he said.

Sisodia inaugurates three-day Mehrauli Monsoon Festival

Event will highlight significance of Mehrauli

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Delhi Tourism's three-day Mehrauli Monsoon Festival kicked off on Friday with a plethora of activities lined up to highlight the cultural and ecological significance of Mehrauli as a tourist destination.

The festival was inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia who said that he hoped the festival would promote Mehrauli as a destination for locals and travellers and in-turn give an opportunity to visitors to explore the layered history of Delhi's oldest surviving habitation.

"Mehrauli was considered to be Delhi's monsoon retreat. I urge all Delhiites to celebrate the season in this historic location, exploring its rich culture, ecology and heritage," Mr. Sisodia said.

Delhi Tourism said that the festival seeks to highlight the cultural and ecological significance of Mehrauli as a tourist destination and will showcase multiple work-

'Destroy liquor not sold at bar counters in 8 days'

Govt. order exempts beer, hotels with 4 stars and above

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi government has ordered restobars, hotels and pubs to destroy alcohol that does not get sold within eight days at the "bar counters". However, no such time limit has been fixed for bottles kept at stores.

The move is to prevent adulteration of alcohol that happens in bar counters, as bottles remain there for months, according to officials of Department of Excise Entertainment and Luxury Tax.

The Friday's order, a modification of an order passed on Monday, has exempted hotels with 4 stars and above, unlike the previous order.

It has also exempted beer and liquor, whose 750 ml bottle's MRP is below ₹1,500. The order will come into effect from Sunday.



One sealed bottle of every brand can be kept at the counter, without any restriction on time limit, the order also said.

Whenever a bottle is taken out of the store at a bar or restaurant, it is marked as sold in the records. "They then keep the bottles for months which results in adulteration of the liquor," an official said.

Owners protest

Exemptions were declared in Friday's order after associations of bars and restaurants

raised their concerns about the earlier order.

"We had received complaints about bars mixing cheaper brands in the bottles of expensive liquor at the counters. We decided to fix no time limit for beer and liquor priced below ₹1,500, at counters, as we have received no complaint regarding adulteration of the same," the official also said.

Champagnes and sparkling wines are now allowed to be kept at bar counters for three days. For whiskey and vodka bottles of 750 ml with the MRP between ₹1,501 and ₹4,500 have got the time limit fixed at eight days.

"Following the expiry of the abovesaid time limit, the stock of liquor that remains unserved shall have to be removed from the bar counter and destroyed within 7 days," the Monday's order read.

BJP attacks Delhi govt. over condition of public transport

Move comes a day after Cabinet gives nod to free travel scheme

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

A day after the Delhi Cabinet cleared a proposal allowing free rides to women commuters on State-run buses, the Opposition BJP attacked the AAP government over the existing condition of public transport infrastructure in the Capital.

Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari expressed "anguish" over the condition of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and accused Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal of failing to improve the condition of the public transporter after coming to power.

"Lakhs of people depend on the DTC to commute from their homes to work places every day. The condition of the terminals and bus stops is so bad that they have failed to provide any relief to the commuters. The Kejriwal government is fully res-

AAP, BJP spar at public event; FIR filed

Vijay Goel cries hooliganism, Dilip Pandey alleges manhandling

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

AAP workers, led by party leader Dilip Pandey, on Friday went to attend a public event by BJP MP Vijay Goel that saw both sides accusing each other of hooliganism. The BJP ended up filing an FIR against AAP in the matter.

While Mr. Goel accused AAP of "resorting to hooliganism" out of "desperation and disappointment", AAP claimed that Mr. Pandey and others were "manhandled" by the BJP workers.

"I was addressing a meeting organised by the RWA federation, United Residents of Delhi, and asking the Kejriwal government to return the money of the honest people who paid their water bills and penalties on time when AAP leader Dilip Pandey arrived at the venue and started disrupting the meeting," Mr. Goel alleged.

"He was later made to leave the venue and an FIR



**Of the Chief Minister's seven Lok Sabha candidates, the security money of five was forfeited... Now, Kejriwal is giving electricity and water bill waivers just to gather votes**

VIJAY GOEL  
BJP MP

was filed against him by RWA General Secretary Saurabh Gandhi at Mukherjee Nagar police station," Mr. Goel said.

The former Delhi BJP chief further argued that the Chief Minister had "failed to win even a single election" after 2015 and was providing electricity and water bill waivers just "to gather votes".

"Of his [CM's] seven Lok Sabha candidates, the security money of five was forfeited... Now, out of desperation and disappointment,

Kejriwal is giving electricity and water bill waivers just to gather votes," Mr. Goel argued.

"With just four months left for the [Delhi Assembly] election, Kejriwal is trying to dupe the voters. First he extorted money from people in the name of electricity and water bills, and now he is fooling them," he added.

AAP hits back

"At the event, Dilip Pandey sought to know Vijay Goel ji's stand on the announcement by the Delhi government regarding making electricity free up to 200 units and waiving of dues on water bill. Vijay Goel's colleagues misbehaved with him [Mr. Pandey] and AAP workers," AAP MP Sanjay Singh said while addressing a press conference here on Friday.

Mr. Singh, in a letter to Mr. Goel, asked if the BJP supports the full subsidy given to those consuming up to 200 units of electricity.

Municipal services at Common Service Centres

Facility to be available at 430 centres

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Various online municipal services in South Delhi will soon be available at about 430 Common Service Centres (CSC) run by the Union Government, senior officials said on Thursday.

The centres, running as part of the 'Digital India Programme', also provide services such as passport application, Aadhaar updation, applications for Ayushman Bharath and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Yojana and other online services, an official said. There are up to 1,800 such centres in Delhi currently, officials, who are part of the CSC, said.

They also said that the CSC had not tied up with the Delhi government since the government was attempting to undertake door-to-door delivery of services, but was now finalising tie-ups with the civic bodies.

Woman kills self, husband arrested

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

A 20-year-old woman allegedly died by suicide at her house in north-west Delhi's Netaji Subhas Place, the police said on Friday. Her husband has been arrested in the case.

The woman hailed from Himachal Pradesh's Hamirpur, they said. The incident took place on Monday and the woman died during treatment on Thursday. The deceased had got married last year and shifted to Delhi.

"The family of the deceased said that she was harassed by her husband for dowry. We took the statement of the father and have arrested the husband," a senior police officer said. A case has been registered against the husband.

*Suicide prevention helpline: Sanjivini, Society for Mental Health: 011-4076 9002 (Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. -7.30 p.m.)*

**CSC had not entered a tie-up with the Delhi government since the latter was attempting to undertake door-to-door delivery of services. CSC is now finalising tie-ups with civic bodies**

CSC OFFICIALS

In the present set-up, individuals are required to visit zonal offices of the municipal corporations to carry out their work. To reduce delays and multiple visits to municipal offices by the people for things like death certificates, this project would be crucial, officials said. The SDMC's back-end digital systems and the CSC will come together in order to ensure seamlessness of the system. Officials said that the process could take up to a month.

**NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**  
Office of the Executive Engineer (M)-II/RZ  
F-2 Block, Mangolpuri, Outer Ring Road, Delhi  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
NIT No. : EE(M)-II/RZ/TC/2019-20/08 Dated : 27.08.2019  
**Start date of sale/download of tender document** : 27.08.19 from 05:00 P.M.  
**Last date of tender document online submission** : 18.09.19 upto 02:00 P.M.  
**Opening of financial bid** : 18.09.19 upto 02:15 P.M.  
**FOR ONLINE TENDERING TIME TABLE PLEASE REFER**  
**http://mcdetenders.com** Sealed percentage rate/Item rate for tenders are invited for the execution of the following works by the North Delhi Municipal Corporation from approved and eligible contractor and will be received as per time table and the same will be opened in the room of the Executive Engineer-(M)-II/Rohini Zone, F2 Block, Mangolpuri, Outer Ring Road, Delhi-110085 on **18.09.2019 at 02:15 PM** onward on website **www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER** by EE(M-II)/RZ in the presence of Contractors, if any.  
**S.No. : 1. Name of Work/F.T.C. No. :** Imp. Dev. of Road from D-2/493 to Sultanpuri Nangloi Main Road in Ward No. 47N, Sultanpuri, RZ. **019/066/XL/VIII-S/MLC-032 EE(M-II)/RZ/2019-20/08/01, Tender Amount : Rs. 42,13,569/-, Earnest Money : Rs. 84,300/-, Time of Completion : 4 Months, Rates hold goods for : 5 Months, Tender Cost: Rs. 500/-, Head of Account/Consent Date : XL-VIII-S.** Other details can be seen/downloaded from the website **www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER**.  
**R.O. No. 73/DP/North/2019-20 Executive Engineer (M)-II/RZ**

**GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH**  
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
**NOTICE INVITING e-BID**  
The Executive Engineer, Tawang Division, PWD/AP, Tawang invites on behalf of Governor of Arunachal Pradesh online Request for Proposal on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode from all registered contractors in Class-I and above eligible for National & International Competitive Bidding as detailed :  
BID / Package No. : TWD/RFP/2019-20/02/74 Dated August 2019  
Name of Work : **C/o of District Secretariat at Tawang.**  
Estimate cost put to NIB : Rs. 1231.70 Lakhs.  
Bid Security : Rs.12,31,700.00  
(Rupees twelve lakh thirty one thousand seven hundred only)  
Period of completion : 36 (Thirty six) Months  
The complete BID document can be viewed, downloaded and must be submitted on line at e-tendering official web site **www.arunachaltenders.gov.in** on or before 16/09/2019 up to (12 00 hours) IST.  
**Executive Engineer**  
**Tawang Division, P.W.D.**  
**Tawang, A.P.**  
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Dtd 27.08.2019  
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vide tender nos: LDCL/Stevedoring/SA & YU/2019 and LDCL/Steamer/Laundry-SA & YU/2019. For details and E-tendering please visit website **www.tenderwizard.com/UTL**.  
Tender due on 17.09.19 at 2.00 PM. For any help in e-tendering, please contact M/s KEONICS e-tender help Desk: 080-40482000.  
**Sd/- MD (LDCL)**

**National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project**  
**Kerala State Disaster Management Authority**  
**Department of Disaster Management, Government of Kerala**  
**e-Procurement Tender Notice**  
Competitive item rate bid invited for the following work.  
**Name of Work:** Procurement of Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Services for implementation of Component - A - Early Warning Dissemination System (EWDS) of Last Mile Connectivity for the State of Kerala (Tender ID:- 2019\_NCRMP\_281514\_1)  
The Bid Document can be downloaded from the Government's e-procurement Portal ([www.etenders.kerala.gov.in](http://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in)) and for more details regarding the tenders and bidding process please visit [www.sdma.kerala.gov.in](http://www.sdma.kerala.gov.in)  
**Sd/- State Project Manager**  
Enquiries: State Project Manager, NCRMP, 3rd Floor, Room No-E-203, ILDM Building, PTP Nagar, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695038, Email: [ncrmp.kerala@gmail.com](mailto:ncrmp.kerala@gmail.com), Phone-0471-2365494  
**(3783268/D3/2019/I&PR)**

**DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES JAMMU**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE NO: DHS/J/ MEDICINES, DIAGNOSTIC, EQUIPMENT & INSECTICIDES FOR STATE MALARIOLOGIST, J&K STATE, JAMMU/02 OF 2019.**  
For and on behalf of the Governor of Jammu & Kashmir State, Online tenders are invited from the Original Manufacturers / Authorised dealer/Distributor for the supply of "MEDICINES, DIAGNOSTIC, EQUIPMENTS & INSECTICIDES FOR STATE MALARIOLOGIST, J&K STATE, JAMMU" for the year 2019-20.  

S.No	Name of the Item	
1.	Tab. Chloroquine	
2.	Tab. Primaquine 2.5 mg	
3.	Malathion	
4.	Elisa based Dengue NS1 Kits (96 tests)	
5.	Striup Pumps	
6.	Knap Sack Pump	
7.	Jaswant Singh Bhattacharji- I Stain (125 ml)	
8.	Jaswant Singh Bhattacharji- II Stain (125 ml)	

**Specification.**  
1. Malathion: Malathion (Technical) (S- 2dI) (ortho-Oxy-carbonyl), ethyl-ho, o-dimethylphosphorodithioate) shall conform to IS: 1832-1978 specification with up to date amendments with minimum 95% Malathion contents% by mass and shall have no foul or disagreeable odour. It control insects such as aphids, leafhoppers, Japanese beetles, spider mites, scale insects, housefly & mosquitoes as well as large number of other sucking and chewing insects attacking fruits, vegetables  
Additional requirement:  
Insecticide Act: In addition, the terms and condition in the rules framed in 1971 and the insecticide Act of 1968(46 or 1968) Govt. of India with up to date amendments at the time of finalization of the contract will also be applicable.  
**Expiry Date:**  
An expiry of minimum two years from the date of Manufacturing.  
**Packing:**  
Packing should indicate Batch No., Name of Manufacturer, Date of Manufacturing Date of Expiry, Govt. Supply not for Sale.  
**Pack Size:**  
Shall be packed in a 5 Litres packing with properly sealed.  
**Quality Assurance:**  
Certificate/ test report from Govt. Approved Laboratory.  
2. Knap Sack Pump  
**Description**  
• Plastic Tank Made from high quality high density Polythene resistant to impact and corrosion.  
• Pump Assembly Pressure chamber, Pump Barrel made of seamless brass tube.  
• Discharge Line Brass Trigger cut-off device with PVC delivery hose fitted with brass spray lance with fine spray brass nozzle.  

Specifications	16 litres
Capacity	4.5 kg
Gross Weight	52 X 20 X 48 cm
Box Dimensions	300 KPa
Average Working Pressure	500 ml/min
Minimum Discharge Rate	

  
3. ELISA based Dengue NS1 Kit:  
DENGUE NS1 Ag MICROLISA: Designed for in vitro qualitative detection of Dengue NS1 antigen in human serum or plasma and is used as a screening test for testing of collected blood samples suspected for DENGUE. The kit detects all four subtypes: DEN1, DEN2, DEN3 & DEN4 of Dengue Virus.  
Pack Size: 96 Wells (Test). Should contain user Manual along with positive, negative controls. Buffer solution, Substrate solution and stop solution and should be properly packed, Packing should indicate Lot No., Name of Manufacturer, Date of Manufacturing and Date of Expiry.  
4. Striup Pump:  
Should have Valid ISO certificate (of the Manufacturer) (v) Product must be ISI / BIS / CE / US FDA / IEC etc., (valid ISO/ BIS / CE / US FDA / IEC certificate) certified (As per Section VII - technical specification).  
Should be made of Brass with discharge rate of pump shall be capable of discharging a minimum of 740-850 ML per minute.  
Pack Size: 125 ML  
**Quality Assurance:**  
Certificate/ test report from Govt. Approved Laboratory.  
The particular of the tender are as under:-  

S.No	Particulars of the tenders	Cost of Tender	Earnest Money
01	"MEDICINES, DIAGNOSTIC, EQUIPMENTS & INSECTICIDES FOR STATE MALARIOLOGIST, J&k STATE, JAMMU" for the year 2019-20.	Rs.750/- General FOR Rs.350/- SSI Unit	Rs. 50,000/- Gen Rs. 20,000/- SSI Unit.
02.	Publish date	29 <sup>th</sup> of August, 2019 at 16:00 hours.	
03.	Document download start	30 <sup>th</sup> of August, 2019 at 11:00 hours	
04.	Bid submission start date	31 <sup>st</sup> of August 2019 at 11:00 Hours	
05.	Bid submission end date	7 <sup>th</sup> of September, 2019 upto 16:00 Hours	
06.	Technical bid opening date (online)	9 <sup>th</sup> of September, 2019 at 11:00 hours	
07.	Financial bid opening date (online)	Shall be Communicated later on after opening & evaluation of technical bid.	
08	Financial & Technical Bid	Both the Bids Uploaded separately on line.	

  
The Terms & Conditions of e-NIT & other documents can be downloaded from this office official web site [www.jkhealth.org](http://www.jkhealth.org) & [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in). The tenderer shall have to upload scanned copy of below mentioned technical documents including CD/R/DR in the portal of jk-tenders. The below mentioned original tender documents shall be obtained only from the bidder who declared as L1 after opening of financial bid of "State Malariologist, J&K State, Jammu."  
**CONVENOR (DIRECTOR HEALTH SERVICES, JAMMU) PURCHASE COMMITTEE DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES JAMMU.**  
**DIP/J-2402-P**



# Two toddlers die in govt.-run orphanage

District administration orders probe

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MATHURA

Two toddlers died and eight others were taken ill at a government-run orphanage, prompting the district administration to order a probe.

The authorities have taken sample of the milk being fed to children at the Rajkiya Shishu Sadan here, Mathura District Magistrate Sarvagya Ram Mishra said on Friday.

Ten children of the orphanage fell ill on Wednesday, with two of them dying of diarrhoea within the last three days, Mr. Mishra added.

Of the ten children, four serious cases were referred to Agra medical college, while the others are being

treated at the Mathura district hospital here, he said.

He said despite the best possible treatment, two children below one-and-half-years of age could not be saved and they died in Agra. The other hospitalised children are recovering, he added.

“ADM (F&R) Brajesh Kumar has been asked to probe the death and illness of the children,” said Mr. Mishra, adding that he has been asked to submit his report within 24 hours.

## Milk sample taken

As children taken ill were under one-and-half-years of age and fed only milk, the milk sample has been lifted for examination, he said.

# BKU protests against hike in transport fee

Muzaffarnagar District Magistrate had reprimanded students, refused to take their memorandum

ANUJ KUMAR  
GHAZIABAD

Hundreds of farmers, led by the Bharatiya Kisan Union, staged a sit-in at the Muzaffarnagar Collectorate alleging that the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, has led to increase in transport fee of schools. The protest started after the District Magistrate allegedly refused to take their memorandum and reprimanded the students who came to register their demands on Thursday.



BKU members during their sit-in in Muzaffarnagar. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

## Section 144

After the police invoked Section 144 in the Collectorate area, farmers scribbled that the BKU had invoked its ‘Section 288’ and that government officials would not be allowed to enter the office. Local sources said that District Magistrate Selva Kumari J had to leave in a private vehicle from the back gate of the Collectorate on Thursday.

The farmers stayed over-

nights on the Collectorate premises and cooked their food there. “The government says that we don’t educate our children. When we raise demands related to education, we are not taken seriously,” said BKU youth wing chief Gaurav Tikait.

The protest continued till Friday evening when district officials came out and announced that no change in the transport fee structure would be allowed.

According to official sources, following the directions of the Supreme Court, the State government had brought school vans under the legal regulatory framework, which included not only buses run by schools but also vehicles that run under arrangements between parents and private operators.

Rakesh Tikait, senior BKU leader, said the new policy might be ideal but not practi-

cal. “Public schools that used to charge ₹400-₹500 a month from students commuting from villages are now asking for ₹2,500 a month. A farmer can’t afford this,” Mr. Tikait said.

He said the new policy expects schools not to use vehicles that are more than 10 years old. It necessitates putting two guards on each bus and fixes the number of students that could travel in each vehicle according to the

number of seats. “We all want GPS and cameras in vehicles but the government should ensure that its cost should not be passed on to parents in the rural areas. Otherwise students will drop out, particularly girls.”

On Friday, Ms. Selva Kumari said even in the case of ‘private arrangement’, the increased expenses would not be passed on to parents till the government makes arrangement for the transport of students.

## Other issues

The protest has also become a catalyst to raise the existing issues of farmers such as pending dues of sugarcane crops and rise in electricity prices. “The U.P. government had promised that all pending dues would be cleared till August 31, 2019, but now it seems impossible. The rise in electricity tariff in rural areas is also hurting farmer interests,” said Mr. Tikait.

# Khagragarh blast case: 19 get jail terms

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
KOLKATA

A special National Investigation Agency court on Friday awarded varying jail terms to 19 people, including four Bangladeshi nationals, in the Khagragarh blast case, in which links of terror group Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh were found. Of those sentenced, two are women.

All the 19 convicts, out of 31 accused in the case, had admitted their guilt in the blast in a house at Khagragarh in Burdwan district of West Bengal on October 2, 2014. They were convicted for conspiracy and waging war against the country and under various provisions of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act apart from the Explosives Act and the Arms Act against some of them.

Bombs and IEDs were being manufactured in the house when the blast occurred, killing two persons.

# Trinamool supporters heckle Bengal BJP chief

STAFF REPORTER  
KOLKATA

West Bengal Bharatiya Janata Party chief Dilip Ghosh was allegedly heckled by Trinamool Congress supporters at Lake Town on Friday when he was visiting the area for his ‘Chai Pe Charcha’ campaign.

They also attacked BJP workers who were making preparations for the campaign. A huge contingent of police was deployed to control the situation.

“This is how they have welcomed me. They are do-

ing my publicity. Actually, they are afraid of me,” Mr. Ghosh said.

Party workers organised rallies in the city to protest against the attack.

## Minister’s reply

Responding to the allegations, Trinamool MLA and State Fire Minister Sujit Bose said the BJP was trying to disturb peace in the area and the residents of Lake Town protested against Mr. Ghosh and BJP workers who suddenly arrived in a peaceful neighbourhood.

# High TB prevalence continues to haunt M.P. tribe

Poor housing, alcoholism and seasonal migration obstruct mitigative efforts

SIDHARTH YADAV  
SHIVPURI

It was in 2017 that Jasodi Adiwasi’s\* husband, complaining of persistent stomach ache and cough for some days, died of tuberculosis. After father-in-law, grandmother and brother-in-law, he was the fourth one in the family that TB snatched away.

Months later, desperate to find means to feed her seven-year-old son, she took up sex work, a seemingly easy way to make ₹5,000 a month. This, at the cost of being spurned by the villagers.

Around dusk, Jasodi, 24, made up and wearing a gaudy sari, peeps from the doorway of her mud hut along the main road, awaiting men from a neighbouring village. Meanwhile, her mother-in-law, 70, squatting along the road weeds its edges, a task that fetches her and other elderly widows ₹150 a day.

At a nondescript village in Shivpuri district, home to 110 Saharia families, a particularly vulnerable tribal group,

Treating TB is not just a public health issue like polio wherein two drops are enough

ASHISH VYAS  
Shivpuri TB officer

nearly 50 women, both young and old, have lost their husbands to TB. With men missing from families, making ends meet is an enduring challenge for women. For many, including Bhaggo Adiwasi, 69, the communicable disease has gobbled up entire families – in her case, husband, three sons, one daughter-in-law and two grandsons.

## 2035 deadline

Though TB prevalence among Saharias has dropped from 3,003 to 1,995 per 1,00,000 persons over the years against a national average of 204, as per an Indian Council of Medical Research study, malnutrition, poor housing, alcoholism and sea-

sonal migration continue to be risk factors. While the World Health Organization has set 2035 as the deadline to eliminate the TB epidemic, India, which accounts for a quarter of cases, plans to do so much ahead by 2025.

“Treating TB is not just a public health issue like polio wherein two drops are enough,” says Ashish Vyas, Shivpuri TB officer.

“It requires improving socio-economic conditions of vulnerable people and their education levels to surmount it.”

Indigenous people across the world confront higher TB rates than others due to multiple factors. While only 23% of Saharias, mostly agricultural labourers, are literate, every fifth person in the community suffers from an infection, and every second child under five in Shivpuri is underweight.

Saharias also have the highest total fertility rate in the country at four against a normal of around two, says

Dr. Vyas. “This leads to overcrowding in houses. Already, lack of ventilation and dampness in a kutcha house make conditions suitable for bacteria growth causing TB.”

In 2010, even though Prahlad Adiwasi of Nonheta Khurd village had been diagnosed with TB, he eschewed medication after a month, as he felt better, and resumed working as stone miner in Rajasthan.

Today, lying on a threadbare cot inside a toilet, built under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, he struggles to say: “We used to leave behind the infirm while migrating for work. For the past three years, I am the one being left behind as an invalid.”

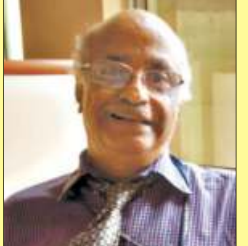
Having just two bigha of arid land, lying fallow due to failing rains, his wife migrates for work every year for two months. Staying next door, his two sons say their father has been kept in isolation in a toilet, the only separate room available.

\*name changed

## OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

### DEATH

### SAD DEMISE



We regret to announce the demise of **Karmayogi Narayan Sekhar (Dr. N. Sekhar)** ex-MICO, Retired Professor, Dayanand Sagar College of Engineering, S/o late Sri TS Narayana Aiyar. Passed away at his residence on 30-08-2019. His parting was peaceful, surrounded by loved ones. **Sorrowing family** Viswesh, Niveditha, Aravind & Shankaran Phone: 080-26645632

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**POL. SCIENCE** BY C.K. SINGH **23 SEP** 3:00pm  
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4<sup>th</sup> Floor Jeevan Tara Building Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110 001  
Notice under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993).  
In the matter of OA No. 69/2018/DRT-III  
HDFC BANK LTD., Applicant Vs SPHAIRA LOGISTICS PVT. LTD. & ANR. Defendants  
To, D-1 M/s Sphaira Logistics Pvt. Ltd. & Anr., Through Its Directors, Office At: A-4, Lower Ground Floor, Yojna Vihar, Delhi - 110092  
Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal 23.11.2019 at 10:30 A.M. Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 27th day of Aug., 2019.  
By Order of the Tribunal Assistant Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
We, Ramesh Tuteja S/o late Milawa Ram Tuteja and Smt. Prabha Tuteja W/o Ramesh Tuteja Sector 19 R/o H.No. 534/67, Gopi Colony, Sector-19, Old Faridabad have discovered, debarrd their son Piyush Tuteja from all moveable & immovable properties because he is out of control of us. We and my relative have severed all relations with him. Anyone dealing with his may do so at his/her own risk, cost & consequences.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to inform you all that my Client/s, Ratish Kumar Burman, S/o Late K. C. Burman, and Neeru Burman, W/o Ratish Kumar Burman R/o J4/103 PARASVNATH PRESTIGE SECTOR 93A, NOIDA - 201304. Disown and Debarred their daughter Pooja Mehrotra W/o Puneet Mehrotra, R/o D-304 Ardeesty, Gate no.2, The Residency Appls., Sector 52, Gurugram-122002 from their life, assets and property due to her behavior. He/ She (Mr. Ratish Kumar Burman and Mrs. Neeru Burman) will not held responsible for their misconduct, acts & omissions. Any body deals with them will do so on their own responsibility for that my Client (both) Mr. Ratish Kumar Burman and Mrs. Neeru Burman will not held responsible for any transaction/s, etc. by Pooja Mehrotra (Daughter) & Puneet Mehrotra (Son in Law), with any person/ institution/ bank.  
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# Workers remain loyal, asserts Pawar

NCP chief says leaders are the ones deserting ship, loses cool over question on defecting relatives

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE  
PUNE

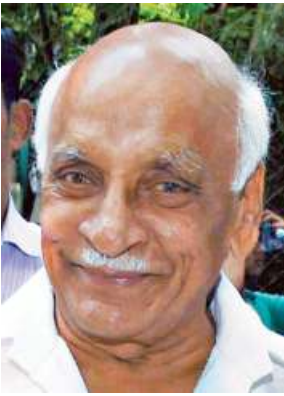
With the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) threatening to implode as the Assembly polls inch closer, party president Sharad Pawar said on Friday that the leaders who were deserting the party had seen personal growth within the NCP. Mr. Pawar said that while the rank and file remained loyal, it was their leaders who were deserting the party.

Speaking at a press conference in Shirirampur in Ahmednagar district, the usually imperturbable Mr. Pawar lost his calm when a television journalist questioned him about his relatives – NCP stalwart Dr. Padamsinha Patil, one of Mr. Pawar’s closest confidantes, and his son, Ranajagitsinha, the MLA from Osmanabad – who are allegedly on their way out of the party.

Dr. Patil is the brother-in-law of senior NCP leader Ajit Pawar, who is Mr. Pawar’s nephew.

Responding to questions on the exodus of NCP leaders defecting to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Shiv Sena, Mr. Pawar said, “For the past 10-15 years the personal growth and development of these leaders has taken place within this very party. Now, perhaps they want more development and the BJP and Sena may have shown them some path to fulfil it. However, what exactly this ‘development’ is and what is its nature, I have no clue.”

When a reporter then said not only leaders, but relatives like Dr. Patil, too, were on their way out, the NCP chief flared up. “What is the



**Thorny query:** NCP chief Sharad Pawar was angered when asked about rumours of his relatives Padamsinha Patil (right) and his son Ranajagitsinha leaving the party. •FILE PHOTO

connection between politics and relatives... this is a highly improper question... why are you bringing up the subject of relatives?” said an incensed Mr. Pawar, demanding that the journalist apologise, and even threatening to walk away from the press conference.

A visibly upset Mr. Pawar refused to let the reporter explain himself, remarking to others present that “those who lack civility should not be called for the press meeting.” “You either call him (the journalist who asked him the question) or you call me,” the NCP chief said, refusing to take queries and urging the reporter to leave the conference.

After much persuasion from other journalists, Mr. Pawar was pacified and gave his reactions on other issues.

Meanwhile, in an indication that he may be switching to the BJP, Ranajagitsinha Patil has called for an open meeting of his followers in Osmanabad on August 31. In a lengthy Facebook post, the Osmanabad MLA

called for a “family discussion” with his supporters “in view of the changing ecological and political conditions in the district,” citing the need to take a decision on the completion of irrigation projects and the creation of employment guarantee schemes.

According to observers, the reason for Mr. Patil wishing to switch parties is purely economic as his business concerns are in the doldrums. “The Terna cooperative sugar factory in Osmanabad controlled by the Patil family has incurred losses that run into several hundred crores. The NCP MLA is expecting some form of bailout if he joins hands with the BJP. The latter, on the other hand, will gain a firm toehold in Osmanabad and try to secure control of other local institutions over which the Patils have great influence,” a local observer said.

It is believed that Mr. Patil will join the BJP in the presence of party president Amit Shah in Solapur district on Sunday.

## Coming this Sunday: BJP’s mega recruitment

Several big names set to join party

ALOK DESHPANDE  
MUMBAI

Come Sunday and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is likely to witness a ‘mega recruitment’ of leaders from the Congress, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and other parties at a rally in Solapur, in the presence of party president Amit Shah.

Among the top leaders who are likely to join the BJP include former chief minister and current Rajya Sabha MP from the BJP quota Narayan Rane. Mr. Rane will reportedly dissolve his party, the Maharashtra Swabhimana Paksha, which he formed after quitting the Congress. His two sons, Congress MLA Nitesh and former Congress MP Niles, are also likely to join the BJP.

Former Kolhapur MP and NCP leader Dhananjay Mahadik is also likely to jump ship to the BJP. Mr. Mahadik, whose cousin is a BJP MLA, lost the 2019 Lok Sabha polls to Shiv Sena’s Sanjay Mandlik, with the Congress and sections of the NCP allegedly campaigning against him because of his proximity with the BJP.

On Friday, Jaikumar Gore, Congress MLA from Man in western Maharashtra, submitted his resignation to Assembly speaker



Narayan Rane

Haribhau Bagde, which was accepted. Mr. Gore is also likely to join the BJP on Sunday. His brother and bitter rival Shekhar has already joined the Shiv Sena. In 2014, the brothers contested the polls respectively from Congress and NCP. Congress MLA Siddharam Mhetre from Solapur district is also likely to switch to the BJP on Sunday.

The biggest defection could be of Padmasinha Patil, a founding member of the NCP and a close aide of party president Sharad Pawar, and his son, NCP MLA Ranajagitsinha Patil from Osmanabad district.

Apart from these names, Sataru MP Udayanraje Bhosle, State Council chairman Ramraje Nimbalkar and MLA Baban Shinde from the NCP, and Congress leader Harshvardhan Patil are also said to be on their way to the BJP.

# BJP not inclined to share seats with Sena in Pune

Party has 8 sitting MLAs and won’t let go of seats so easily

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE  
PUNE

Despite affirmations by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis and Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Sena contesting the State Assembly polls jointly, there is uncertainty over the proposed BJP-Sena alliance on account of a thorny seat-sharing arrangement in the eight Assembly segments in Pune city.

The BJP had swept all seats in Pune in the 2014 Assembly elections when a rupture in alliances saw the two parties (as well as the Congress and Nationalist Congress Party) contesting the polls separately. Now, the BJP’s city unit is not disposed to let go of any of these segments in face of the Sena’s claims on at least three of them: Hadapsar, Shivajinagar and Kothrud.

BJP city unit chief Madhuri Misal said since the party has eight sitting MLAs, there was no reason to let go of any of the seats. On Thursday, senior BJP leader and State Education Minister Ashish Shelar interviewed aspirants for the eight seats.

In the wake of the party’s success in the Lok Sabha elections, 131 aspirants have come forward as potential candidates. The Kasba Assembly segment is set to get a new candidate as the sitting legislator, senior BJP leader Girish Bapat, was recently elected to the Lok Sabha. Among those eager for a ticket from Kasba Peth include Pune Mayor Mukta



**Contentious:** The Pune seats could prove to be a wrinkle in the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance. •FILE PHOTO

Tilak and Mr. Bapat’s daughter-in-law, Swarada.

In the results of the 2014 Assembly polls, the Sena’s Mahadeo Babar was unseated by the BJP’s Yogesh Tilekar, while Chadrakant Mokate was routed by the BJP’s Medha Kulkarni in Kothrud.

The Shivajinagar seat, once a Sena stronghold, has slipped from the party’s grasp even before the 2009 Assembly elections, with its former MLA Vinayak Nimhan switching alliances with the Congress before re-entering the Sena fold after the 2014 polls.

While the BJP has commenced their poll preparations in the city on a war footing, the Sena’s leaders

and cadre have yet to gear up for the challenge.

However, some Sena leaders have said statements by local BJP leaders did not mean anything as the parties would be contesting jointly.

“The opposition Congress-NCP is not even in the picture this time. It is a tussle for supremacy between the BJP and the Sena. The BJP’s internal survey shows they can win more than 160 of the 288 seats on their own. Any seat-sharing formula they present before the Sena will be based on these considerations. It is hardly likely they would be willing to give up seats with sitting MLAs, as in Pune city,” said a political analyst.

# Documents used by police not admissible: Bharadwaj’s lawyer

Advocate says all papers are undated, unsigned, unverified

SONAM SAGAL  
MUMBAI

None of the documents that the Pune Police relied on to implicate trade unionist and human rights lawyer Sudha Bharadwaj in the Elgar Parishad case are admissible in law, her lawyer told the Bombay High Court on Friday.

Arguing for her bail before a single Bench of Justice S.V. Kotwal, advocate Yug Chaudhry submitted a compilation of documents to the court, and said they contained papers seized from the hard disks of the others accused in the Bhima-Koregaon violence, but none from any device at Ms. Bharadwaj’s house.

He said there is no evidence apart from the printouts from the others’ computers. He said, “It is not [the prosecution’s] case that [Ms. Bharadwaj] was there at Elgar Parishad and Bhima-Koregaon, and the only single witness in the case is the investigating officer.”

Mr. Chaudhry said not a single document from the compilation is admissible in law. He said the prosecution has relied upon printouts



Sudha Bharadwaj

and originals. Referring to the affidavit filed by the Pune Police, he said the documents were not produced by the computers, but were copied from the computers of the co-accused. So they could be scanned or downloaded from somewhere.

He said the letters are not dated, so cannot be linked to Ms. Bharadwaj by handwriting analysis. The letters are unsigned, unverified and unauthorised as per Section 161 (examination of witnesses by police) of the Code of Criminal Procedure and none of them were seized from the residence of Ms. Bharadwaj.

He said, “What we have are typed unsigned letters

from A to B found at C’s computer mentioning something about [Ms. Bharadwaj].” He said for a document to be admissible in law, its authorship and truth has to be proved. Reading from the affidavit filed by the prosecution, Mr. Chaudhry said, “According to them, the role of the accused was not peripheral, but vital.”

He read out a letter, whose image was found on the computer of jailed activist Rona Wilson: “on January 2, 2018, there was a mohalla meeting of special female naxal members and people attending the meeting were Shoma Sen and Sudha Bharadwaj.”

Mr. Chaudhry said, “Shoma Sen is a retired professor of literature of the Nagpur University and Ms. Bharadwaj is a professor at National Law University, Delhi. She is the president’s representative in selecting a vice chancellor for the State of Chhattisgarh.” He said, however, as per the call detail records, Ms. Sen was in Mumbai and Ms. Bharadwaj was in Faridabad on the day in question.

The hearing will continue on September 4.

# Just 1.2% chemists stock abortion pills in State: study

Pharmacists cite legal hassles as reason; experts say lack of access to safe abortions a worry

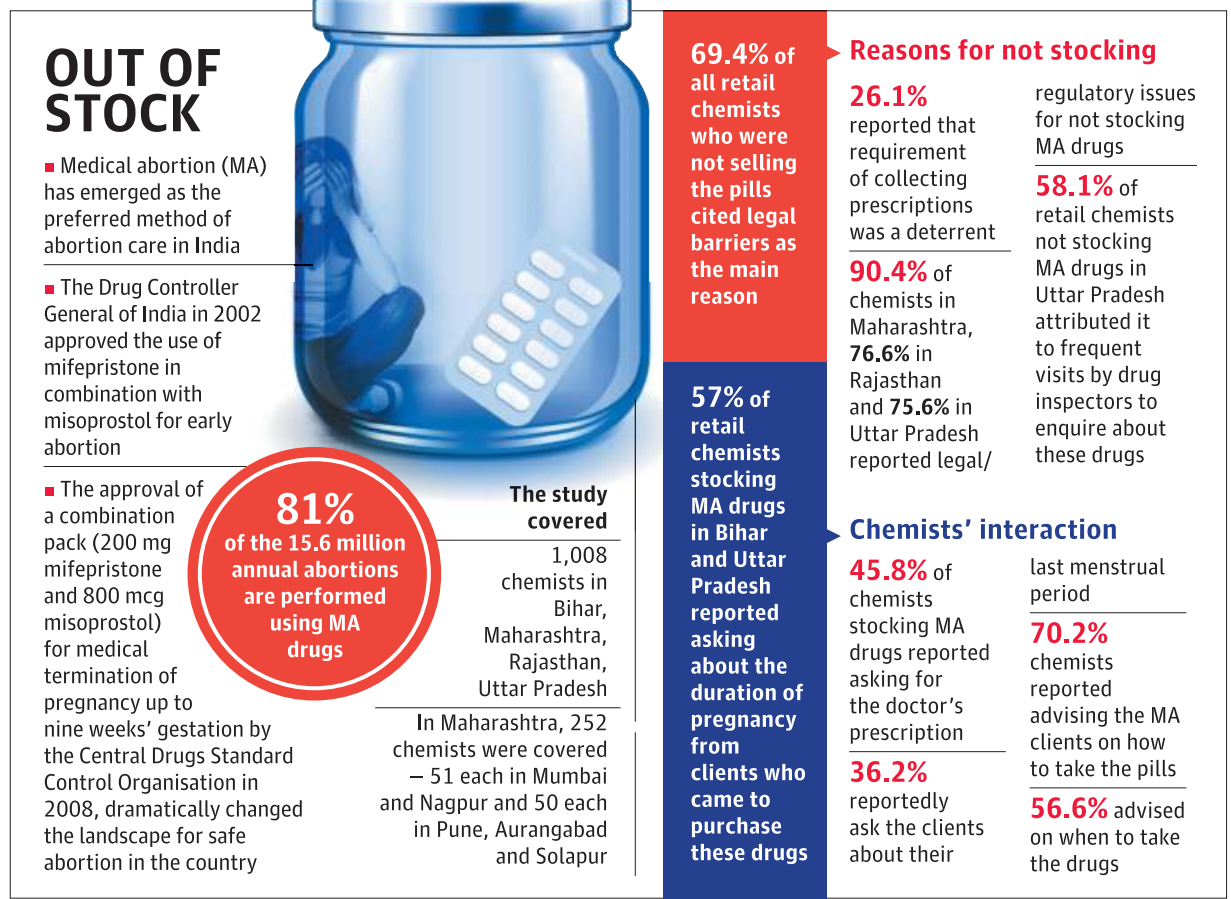
JYOTI SHELAR  
MUMBAI

A mere 1.2% chemists in Maharashtra – and only three in Mumbai – stock medical abortion (MA) pills, a study has found. The study, which covered 1,008 chemists in Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan, reviewed 252 chemists in five cities in Maharashtra.

Medical abortion is approved up to nine weeks of gestation and has emerged as the most preferred method of abortion in India. The pills come in a combination pack of two drugs: mifepristone and misoprostol.

“The fact that a large number of chemists are not stocking the pills is extremely worrisome,” said Dr. Kalpana Apte, member of the technical advisory group of Pratigya Campaign for Gender Equality and Safe Abortion, which carried out the study. It found that legal and regulatory issues were the common concerns for chemists not stocking the pills.

Dr. Apte, who is also the chief executive officer of the Family Planning Association of India, said a major crack-down in the State by the Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) a few years ago has played a role in chemists’ reluctance to stock the pills. “There is a requirement of a lot of paperwork from the chemists. There is a general misconception that



(Source: Pratigya Campaign for Gender Equality and Safe Abortion study)

the medication can be misused for sex-selective abortions. But this is not correct. The sex of the foetus cannot be detected through ultrasound before 13 to 14 weeks, and medical abortion pills are indicated only up to nine weeks,” Dr. Apte said. The study said that the percentage of retail chemists

highlighting legal issues was the highest in Maharashtra at 90.4%, followed by Rajasthan at 76.6%, where the drug authorities have been regulating sales of the drugs to address sex selection.

Dr. A.L. Sharada, director of Population First, a partner of the Pratigya Campaign, said abortion pills are ex-

tremely safe to use under proper medical supervision. “Limiting their access leads to women opting for unsafe abortion,” Dr. Sharada said.

Experts say lack of access to medical abortion also leads to mental agony and delay in abortions. The study has highlighted the need to address misconceptions

about medical abortions and gender-biased sex selection among drug regulatory authorities, improve knowledge of chemists on abortion and medical abortion drugs, increase investments in safe abortion communication through information, education and communication, and media outreach.

## Reviewing devastation



**Site visit:** Members of a Central vigilance committee tour flood-affected areas such as Shirol near Kolhapur on Friday. Maharashtra has sought ₹6,813 crore in aid from the Centre for rehabilitation efforts. •ABHIJEET GURJAR



**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**  
Top election officers of Kerala and Odisha will fly to Moscow on September 3 to share tips with their Russian counterparts on smooth conduct of elections. The Election Commission has given the top spots for efficient organisation of the 2019 Lok Sabha election to Kerala and Odisha.

Though the Cardinal will continue as the Major Archbishop of the Ernakulam-Angamaly archdiocese, the

While speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, he recalled that his house was raided by the Income Tax Department in 2017 when he was shielding around Gujarat 40 legislators from being poached by the the BJP ahead of the Rajya Sabha elections in August that year.

"IT raid on me was politically motivated for hosting Gujarat Congress MLAs. As a loyal soldier of Congress & a

The Orthodox faction had on Thursday moved the Supreme Court with a contempt plea against the government, accusing it of no-

"My 85-year-old mother is a widow and we two brothers have to take care of her. All my properties, including those held by my mother, and our ancestral home in Kanakapura have been attached by the ED as *benami*. Her properties are in our name and all of them have been attached as *benami*," he said.

The probe team has sought custody of the arrested. The VACB had interrogated Mr. Sooraj on Thursday, while others, including Mr. Goyal had been questioned about a week ago.

**MP raises issue**  
Experts of the 'State Committee on Dam Safety' under the Department of Water Resources also sought action against blasting after tremors were recorded at the VSAT Enabled Permanent Seismic Monitoring Stations of the KSNDMC.

The issue of explosives and the impact on the safety of KRS was raised in Parliament by Sumalatha Ambareesh, Mandya MP. Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has also expressed his willingness to curb illegal blasting at stone quarries.

Further details can be seen on website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>  
**Executive Engineer,**

P.R. 215618 Industries(19-20)-D **बूढ़ - बूढ़ नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूढ़ को तराशेंगे** Director of Industries





IN BRIEF

**No change in deadline for filing I-T returns**  
NEW DELHI  
The I-T department on Friday dismissed social media reports that claimed the government had extended the due date for filing of income tax returns by a month and advised taxpayers to complete the process by August 31. PTI

**CBI takes over 2 Deoria shelter home cases**

NEW DELHI  
The CBI has taken over two cases of alleged sexual assault of minor girls at a shelter home run by a non-government organisation in U.P.'s Deoria. Among those named in the FIRs are superintendent Kanchan Lata Tripathi and Girija Tripathi, head of Maa Vindhyavashini Mahila Prashikshan Evam Samaj Seva Sansthan.

**No return visa to India for former Chinese soldier**

BHOPAL  
A former Chinese soldier, who got married in India in 1974 and returned to his native country for the first time in 2017, is now stuck there for want of return visa to India, his son said on Friday. Wang Chang Qi, 80, was captured by Indian forces in 1963 after the India-China war. He was in prison for six years till his release in 1969. He married a woman in Madhya Pradesh in 1974 and settled there. PTI

**Defamation case: Vaiko acquitted**

CHENNAI  
MDMK general secretary and Rajya Sabha Member Vaiko was on Friday acquitted from a case by a special court for elected representatives in Chennai. Mr. Vaiko was facing a criminal defamation case since 2007 for allegedly defaming his mentor and DMK patriarch M. Karunanidhi.



Air India's Boeing 787 Dreamliner plane with its special livery will be unveiled on World Tourism Day on September 1.

Air India's Boeing to turn into a billboard  
Photos of heritage sites to be put up

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI  
Air India will turn one of its planes into a billboard in the sky to showcase India's world heritage sites and spread Prime Minister Narendra Modi's message on promoting domestic tourism. A Boeing 787 Dreamliner plane with its special livery will be unveiled on World Tourism Day on September 1.

Collegium names judges for SC vacancies

Suggestions made for appointment of Chief Justices in eight High Courts

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI  
The Supreme Court Collegium led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi has made a slew of recommendations to fill four vacancies in the Supreme Court and for appointments of Chief Justices in eight High Courts across the country.  
On Friday the Supreme Court published its resolutions recommending Chief Justices of Punjab and Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala High Courts - Justices Krishna Murari, S. Ravindra Bhat, V. Ramasubramanian and Hrishikesh Roy - for appointment to the Supreme Court.  
The Collegium, while re-



All the recommendations of the Supreme Court were made on August 28.

commending the four judges, has "kept in mind the desirability of giving due representation on the Bench of the Supreme Court, as far as possible, to all the High

Courts. The Collegium is also conscious of the fact that some High Courts are going to be unrepresented in the Supreme Court."  
All the recommendations were made on August 28.  
The Collegium has reconsidered its April 8, 2019 recommendation to appoint Justice Vikram Nath, the senior-most judge of the Allahabad High Court, as Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court. Instead, Justice Nath has now been recommended for appointment as Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court.  
Justice J.K. Maheshwari, senior puisne judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court, has been recommended as

Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court. Justice Ajai Lamba, the senior-most judge from the Punjab and Haryana High Court and now functioning on transfer in the Allahabad High Court, has been recommended for appointment as Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court.  
Justice Ravi Shankar Jha, a senior puisne judge from the Madhya Pradesh High Court, has been recommended for appointment as Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court.  
Justice L. Narayana Swamy, the senior-most judge from the Karnataka High Court, has been recommended for appointment as Chief Justice of the Himachal

Pradesh High Court.  
Justice S. Manikumar, the senior-most judge from the Madras High Court, has been recommended as Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court to replace Justice Roy.  
To replace Justice Bhat, the Collegium has recommended Justice Indrajit Mahanty, the senior-most judge from the Orissa High Court who is now functioning on transfer in the Bombay High Court, as Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court.  
Finally, Justice Arup Kumar Goswami, the senior-most judge from the Gauhati High Court, has been recommended for appointment as Chief Justice of the Sikkim High Court.

CBI conducts checks at 150 govt. offices

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI  
The Central Bureau of Investigation on Friday conducted simultaneous surprise checks at 150 government offices in different parts of the country, as part of a special anti-corruption drive.  
Vigilance officers of various government departments were also involved in the exercise.

**Special drive**  
"The joint surprise checks are primarily being conducted at such points and places where common citizens or small businesspersons feel the maximum pinch of corruption in government machinery. This special drive will sensitise all stakeholders about possible avenues of corruption a common citizen faces," an official said.

Palaniswami highlights T.N.'s efforts in ensuring public health  
In England he discusses State's interventions, high funding

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CHENNAI  
Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Friday, during his speech in England, highlighted various efforts taken by the Tamil Nadu government in ensuring public health in the State.  
In his speech at a gathering, that included Members of Parliament of the United Kingdom, Mr. Palaniswami said Tamil Nadu remained a front runner among Indian States in various health indicators.  
"Our policy interventions, introduction of several novel schemes and increased funding played an important role in the State's improved health outcomes," he said.  
Tamil Nadu has already achieved the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) set



Edappadi K. Palaniswami

by the United Nation and it was poised to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in the health sector ahead of 2030, he said.  
"We have learnt the expertise available in the UK and will be upgrading our healthcare delivery systems to better standards," Mr. Palaniswami said, and further added that the Global Inves-

tors' Meet, 2019, attracted investors from Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, France, USA, Germany and Finland, in which 304 MoUs were signed.  
To take the State to the next level, the State government had taken several steps, including a State-supported Alternative Investment Fund that would facilitate investment by global investors in the area of economic infrastructure, a Social Impact Fund to fund affordable housing for lower income groups and vulnerable sections of the society, and a Bio-technology Fund to help promote the sunrise industry in India.  
"We look forward to working with you to create a new paradigm for funding green energy, water, urban infrastructure and affordable housing," he said.

Chandrayaan-2 moves into pre-final orbit

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU  
The team of ISRO engineers further nudged the Chandrayaan-2 spacecraft closer to moon on Friday in an operation lasting 20 minutes. The spacecraft will now go around the moon in an almost circular orbit of 124 km x 164 km, eventually getting into the desired orbit of around 100 km x 100 km.  
"The fourth lunar bound orbit manoeuvre for Chandrayaan-2 spacecraft was performed successfully today (August 30) beginning at 18:18 hours IST as planned, using the on-board propulsion system. All spacecraft parameters are normal," said an ISRO update. This was the fourth orbit manoeuvre since the orbiter-lander reached the moon's vicinity on August 20. The next manoeuvre is planned for September 1.

Casual wear banned for Bihar Secretariat staff

Govt. issued order on August 28

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

PATNA  
The Bihar government has directed its Secretariat employees to avoid wearing casuals like jeans and T-shirts with immediate effect to uphold "office culture and decorum." They have been asked to come to work in formal clothes of sober colour.  
An order was issued to this effect by Additional Secretary of the General Administration Department (GAD) Shiv Mahadeo Prasad on August 28. However, it is not clear whether it is meant only for employees of the GAD or the entire Secretariat staff.  
"The order issued by GAD usually means for all Secretariat employees...we

all have to comply with this order," said Suman Kumar, a Secretariat staffer.  
Earlier in 2007, then Chief Secretary Ashok Kumar Chowdhary had issued a circular on dress code for government employees saying "loud, gaudy colours must be avoided."  
In 2018 then Chief Secretary Anjani Kumar Singh issued a circular asking government employees to wear *khadi* clothes at least twice a week to promote the national fabric.  
"Such orders come from time to time but are not being followed or implemented in spirit," said an employee retiring next June.

**Coal India Limited**  
(A Maharatna Company)  
**ATTENTION ALL RETIRED COAL INDIA EXECUTIVES**  
Coal India Limited (CIL) has implemented the "CIL Executive Defined Contribution Pension Scheme 2007". All retired executives are requested to contact the concerned Nodal Officer of CIL or Subsidiary from where one has retired as per the list given at url mentioned below and submit the requisite forms enabling them to claim annuity/refund. The details are to be filled online and uploaded in corporate website of Coal India Ltd. ([www.coalindia.in](http://www.coalindia.in)) -> Menu -> Employee Corner -> CIL Executive Defined Contribution Pension Scheme) or url: [apps.coalindia.in:8080/apex/?p=168](http://apps.coalindia.in:8080/apex/?p=168)

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH HIGHER EDUCATION (UE) DEPARTMENT NOTIFICATION**  
Government of Andhra Pradesh invites applications for the post of Vice-Chancellor of the following State Universities:  
1. Sri Padmavathi Mahila Viswavidyalayam, Tirupathi (from women applicants only)  
2. Adikavi Nannayya University, Rajamahendravaram  
3. Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur  
4. Krishna University, Machilipatnam  
5. Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupathi  
6. Andhra University, Visakhapatnam  
7. Yogi Vemana University, Kadapa  
For other details, please visit [www.apsche.org](http://www.apsche.org). Applications with bio-data, processing fee and prescribed format may be sent within (20) days from the date of notification by registered post to the following address:  
The Chairman, A.P. State Council of Higher Education, I & II Floors, C-Block, Sri Mahendra Enclave, Tadepalli, Guntur-522 510, Andhra Pradesh.  
Date: 29.08.2019  
Place: Velagapudi  
J.S.V. PRASAD, IAS  
Special Chief Secretary to Government

**WEATHER WATCH**  
RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY  
  
TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)  
**Forecast for Saturday:** Heavy to very heavy rainfall very likely at isolated places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Uttar Pradesh, east Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Vidarbha, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Telangana, Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm accompanied with squall very likely at isolated places over Andaman and Nicobar Islands and with lightning over Jharkhand and Odisha.  

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	35.0	27.0		Kozhikode	45.6	31.0	24.0
Ahmedabad	34.0	26.0		Kurnool	1.1	33.0	25.0
Aizawl	300	29.0	21.0	Lucknow		36.0	27.0
Allahabad	36.0	27.0		Madurai	0.3	40.0	26.0
Bengaluru	29.0	21.0		Mangaluru	61.9	31.0	23.0
Bhopal	4.1	30.0	24.0	Mumbai	3.1	31.0	24.0
Bhubaneswar	0.5	33.0	26.0	Mysuru	4.6	30.0	20.0
Chandigarh	0.1	34.0	28.0	New Delhi		37.0	28.0
Chennai	36.0	27.0		Patna	16.8	36.0	27.0
Coimbatore	33.0	22.0		Port Blair	106.5	26.0	23.0
Dehradun	12.6	34.0	25.0	Puducherry		37.0	25.0
Gangtok	0.2	25.0	20.0	Pune		27.0	23.0
Goa	26.5	31.0	24.0	Raipur	0.2	32.0	26.0
Guwahati	36.0	26.0		Ranchi		32.0	23.0
Hubbali	27.0	22.0		Shillong		26.0	16.0
Hyderabad	8.0	33.0	24.0	Shimla	3.1	26.0	17.0
Imphal	31.0	21.0		Srinagar		28.0	16.0
Jaipur	1.8	34.0	26.0	Thiruvananthapuram	62	31.0	24.0
Kochi	7.4	30.0	24.0	Tiruchi		39.0	27.0
Kohima	30.0	20.0		Vijayawada	2.0	35.0	25.0
Kolkata	20	34.0	27.0	Visakhapatnam		33.0	27.0

  
(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)  
**Pollutants in the air you are breathing**  

CITIES	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	CO	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	CODE	Yesterday
Ahmedabad	66	53	51	107	110	1	In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Bhiwadi,
Bengaluru	5	24	20	35	58	1	Rajasthan recorded an
Chennai	12	18	38	32	39	1	overall air quality index
Delhi	6	45	33	94	247	3	(AQI) score of 184
Hyderabad	29	26	16	43	63	1	indicating a moderate level
Kolkata	2	34	12	47	50	1	of pollution. In contrast,
Lucknow	3	19	153	53	57	1	recorded a healthy AQI
Mumbai	19	14	106	17	56	1	score of 24.
Pune	74	18	66	32	32	1	
Visakhapatnam	-	-	-	-	-	-	

  
Air Quality Code: 1 Poor 2 Moderate 3 Good (Readings indicate average AQI)  
**SO<sub>2</sub>:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.  
**NO<sub>2</sub>:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.  
**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.  
**PM<sub>2.5</sub> & PM<sub>10</sub>:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

**PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**  
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001  
Corporate Identification Number(CIN): U40109PB2010SGC03813, Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in)  
Registration Number: 33813  
OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER/THERMAL DESIGN,  
#T-2, Shakti Vihar, PATIALA-147001  
Ph.No. 0175-2213038, Fax No.0175-2303924 email:ce-th-design@pspcl.in

**PRESS NOTICE**  
**INVITING TENDER FOR MEDIUM/LONG TERM PURCHASE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY (HYDRO ENERGY)**  
**TENDER SPECIFICATION NO. 22/2019/IPC-645 Dated: 28.08.2019**  
PSPCL invites tender under three part bid system for supply of electrical energy from interstate/intrastate sources viz. Generators, Traders having valid Interstate Trading License issued by CERC for interstate trading of energy, intrastate trading license issued by PSERC for intrastate trading of energy, State Electricity Boards, State Electricity Utilities States IPPs & CPPs as per table given below:

Period	Source of energy	Timings	Quantum in MW at Punjab Periphery	Minimum Bid Quantity (MW)	Delivery Point
Medium term or Long term from 1st November 2019 or as the case may be	Hydel	00:00 to 24:00 (RTC)	Upto 50	2	Punjab Periphery
Medium term or Long term - from 1st April 2022	Hydel	00:00 to 24:00 (RTC)	Upto 100	2	Punjab Periphery

Last date of Submission of EMD & Cost of Specification is 01.10.2019 up to 15:00 Hrs.  
**Note:-** The certificate confirming the renewable status of the power from the appropriate authority should be furnished by the suppliers. The bidder shall not claim REC's for this power sold to PSPCL, as this power has been procured by PSPCL for fulfillment of RPO obligation.  
1. Bidding will be done through e-bidding portal only. The link for the e-bidding portal is [pspcl.abcpurchase.com](http://pspcl.abcpurchase.com)  
**Note:-** It is informed that in case tender process is not completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in newspaper. Details regarding corrigendum may be seen on [pspcl.abcpurchase.com](http://pspcl.abcpurchase.com) and official website of PSPCL, i.e. [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in)  
Chief Engineer/Thermal Design  
PSPCL, Patiala  
File No.: C 338/19  
DPR-PB-6843-C

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT UTTARAKHAND PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT STRENGTHENING PROJECT**  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Center for Training and Research in Financial Administration, Behind Uttarakhand Technical University, Dehradun Sudhawal, PO, Uttarakhand, PIN: 248007  
Reference No: PMU/UKPFMS-7 /2019-20/106  
The Government of Uttarakhand is financed from World Bank towards the cost of Uttarakhand Public Financial Management Strengthening Project. Applications are invited for the following assignments latest by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 for engagement of services under PMU. Details including TOR, remuneration, type of engagement, job code, application form and terms can be obtained from the website [www.uttarakhandaudit.uk.gov.in](http://www.uttarakhandaudit.uk.gov.in). The engagement of services will be purely on temporary basis for a period of one year. The total experience asked for has to be post qualification.

No. of Post & Sl.	Name of Post & type of assignment	No. of Post	Qualifications/Experience
1	Procurement Specialist	01	State Engineering Service or Engineer/CA/CWA/MBA/Postgraduate in any discipline with at least 5 years' experience in Procurement 1. Should have relevant experience of managing procurement process of medium and large size contracts and consultancy services. 2. At least 01 years' experience demonstrating expertise in Multilateral Institutions (World Bank, ADB etc.) procurement procedures is mandatory 3. Good knowledge of MS-Office is mandatory 4. Knowledge of STEP (World Bank Procurement Portal) will be an added advantage
2	Contract Management Specialist	01	State Engineering Service or Engineer/CA/CWA/MBA/LLB/Postgraduate in any discipline with at least 5 years' experience in Contract Management 1. Should have relevant experience of managing contracts of medium and large size contracts and consultancy services. 2. At least 01 years' experience of Contract Management demonstrating expertise in Multilateral Institutions (World Bank, ADB etc.) procurement procedures is mandatory 3. Good knowledge of MS-Office is mandatory
3	System Administrator	01	BE (IT or Computer Studies) / B.Tech (IT or Computer Studies) / MCA/ME/ MSC (Computer Science) With more than 5 years' experience in large and medium project preferably in Government Department and entities Or ME (IT or Computer Studies) / M.Tech (IT or Computer Studies) with 03 years' experience in large and medium project preferably in Government Department and entities Certificate of Microsoft certified Professional.
4	Finance Expert	01	-CA with at least ten years' experience in corporate accounting/SOE accounting/Audit -At least ten years' experience of working in Government or Government entities and good understanding of the latest PFMS systems. -Sound Knowledge of the Financial Rules, Financial Handbooks, Financial Government Orders of Government of Uttarakhand -Sound Knowledge of Internal and External Audit, SOE accounting, and double entry accrual-based accounting and knowledge of Companies Act, 2013 and other commercial laws -Sound knowledge of World Bank projects would have an added advantage
5	Economist	01	Master's in Economics with at least 5 years' experience with demonstrated expertise in Fiscal Management 1. Advanced Knowledge of MS-Office suite 2. Advanced Language Skills (Speaking, Reading and Writing) in English and Hindi 3. Understanding of econometric models and forecasting models would be an added advantage

**PROJECT DIRECTOR**

**Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited**  
(A group company of IndianOil)  
Regd. Office: 536, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai 600 018.  
Website: [www.cpcl.co.in](http://www.cpcl.co.in); Email id: [shankarp@cpcl.co.in](mailto:shankarp@cpcl.co.in)  
Tel: 044-24349833 / 24346807 CIN: L40101TN1965GOI005389

**NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS**  
**Transfer of Equity Shares to Investor Education & Protection Fund**  
This Notice is published pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 as amended.  
The Rules, inter alia, provide for transfer of all shares in respect of which dividend has not been paid or claimed by the shareholders for seven consecutive years to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) set up by the Central Government. Accordingly, the Company has sent individual communication dated 28.08.2019 to those shareholders whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF under the said Rules at their registered address. The Company has uploaded the details of such shareholders and shares due for transfer to IEPF on its website at <https://www.cpcl.co.in/IEPF>. Shareholders are requested to refer to the investor center page on the website to verify the details of the shares liable to be transferred to IEPF.  
As communicated to the shareholders vide Notice dated 29.06.2019 forming part of the Annual Report 2018-19 and vide individual letter dated 28.08.2019, Notice is once again given to all such shareholders to make an application to the Company / Registrar & Transfer Agent (RTA) viz. Karvy Fintech Pvt. Ltd. by 04.10.2019 for claiming the unpaid dividend for the year 2011-12 onwards so that the shares are not transferred to the IEPF. It may please be noted that if no reply is received by the Company or the Registrar by 04.10.2019 the Company will be compelled to transfer the shares to the IEPF on 10.10.2019, without any further notice, in line with our earlier communications dated 29.06.2019 and 28.08.2019.  
It may also be noted that the shares transferred to IEPF, including all benefits accruing on such shares, if any, can be claimed back from the IEPF Authority after following the procedure prescribed under the Rules.  
For any clarification on the matter, please contact Shri. Mohd Mohsinuddin, Sr. Manager, Karvy Fintech Pvt. Ltd., Karvy Selenium Tower B, Plot 31-32, Gachibowli, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Hyderabad - 500 032; Tel. No.: 040-67161562/1560; email: [mohd.mohsin@karvy.com](mailto:mohd.mohsin@karvy.com); website: [www.karvyfintech.com](http://www.karvyfintech.com).

For Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited  
Sd/-  
(P. SHANKAR)  
Company Secretary  
Place: Chennai  
Date : 30.08.2019





## Big bank theory

For the mergers to work, realising staff cost synergies is key

For its sheer magnitude, the scale and the ability to disrupt the status quo, the mega bank mergers announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday must go down as the most significant the banking industry has seen in the five decades since nationalisation. The bottomline is clear: to create banks of global level that can leverage economies of scale and balance sheet size to serve the needs of a \$5-trillion economy by 2025. The jury is, of course, out on whether this strategy will succeed. Mergers are driven by synergies – in products, costs, business, geographies or technology and the most important, cost synergies. While there may be some geographical synergies between the banks being merged, unless they realise cost synergies through branch and staff rationalisation, the mergers may not mean much to them or to the economy. This is where the government’s strategy will be tested. It is no secret that public sector banks are overstuffed. There is also bound to be overlap in branch networks such as in the Canara-Syndicate Bank merger, especially in Karnataka and a couple of other southern States. Ditto with Punjab National Bank and Oriental Bank of Commerce, both of which have strong networks in the north and the west. The success of these mergers, therefore, will hinge on how well these banks handle the sensitive issue of staff rationalisation. The All India Bank Employees Association has already raised the red flag.

It was the Narasimham Committee in the late 1990s that recommended consolidation through a process of merging strong banks. The issue has been the proverbial bee in the bonnet of successive governments since then. What the committee also recommended was shutting down the weaker banks and not merging them with the strong ones as is being done now. But this is obviously not an option politically even for a government with a brute majority in Parliament. The biggest plus of the mergers is that they will create banks of scale – there are too many banks in India with sizes that are minuscule by global standards with their growth constricted by their inability to expand. Yet, this advantage of scale cannot be leveraged without adequate reforms in governance and management of these banks. To be sure, Ms. Sitharaman did announce a few measures to make managements better accountable to the board. But the key reforms to be made are at the board level, including in appointments, especially of government nominees. These are often political appointees, with little exposure to banking. Surely, such practices need to be curbed as the definition of global banks is not just about size but also professionalism in governance. The government will also have to manage the fallout of unleashing four mergers simultaneously which is bound to cause upheaval in the industry. Would it have been better if these mergers had been done one by one? The future will colour the past.

## With or without

Boris Johnson seems bent on delivering a no-deal Brexit

Prime Minister Boris Johnson’s audacious move on Wednesday to prorogue Parliament for five weeks is a cynical attempt to silence elected representatives on the key issue of Britain’s future ties with the European Union (EU). The decision is all the more suspect because the fraught political climate that has prevailed since June 2016 was the consequence of the country having to renegotiate the nature of its ties with its closest neighbours. Those complex questions could only have been addressed on the floor of the house. Mr. Johnson has sought to play down the controversial decision as no more than an intent to commence a fresh legislative session with the Queen’s speech charting the government’s domestic priorities. But the outrage the country has witnessed suggests that despite its legal correctness, the move may have set a terrible precedent and possibly eroded the Conservatives base. The long suspension announced on Wednesday leaves MPs barely enough time – next week and the second half of October – to avert the risk of a disorderly British exit.

But then, Mr. Johnson, a hardline Eurosceptic, is committed to delivering Brexit with or without a deal. He knew all along that the chances of securing a fresh accord with the EU were next to nil. Brussels will never budge on the question of the Irish backstop, the mechanism that is meant to protect the soft border between Dublin and Belfast. All the same, reiterating that demand in his grandiloquent style put a gloss on the inability to forge a new agreement. Any serious obstacles Mr. Johnson faces to achieve a hard Brexit are entirely domestic. Foremost, the Conservative party’s thin majority in the House of Commons renders Mr. Johnson’s government highly vulnerable to defeat on two separate counts. One is the move to stop a no-deal exit; a vote of no confidence in the Johnson government is the other. In a bid to avert a cliff-edge exit, the Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn recently invited the opposition and Europhile MPs to back a transition government that would seek another extension to Article 50 and call a general election. The proposal enabled Mr. Corbyn to reset the current narrative, even if it elicited a lukewarm response from a rejuvenated Liberal Democratic party and pro-European Tories. Legislation to prevent a no-deal exit affords an opportunity for pro-European MPs across parties to take the decisive step. Meanwhile, a legal challenge against the prorogation has been mounted by activists drawing on a 2016 ruling that forced the government to consult the legislature before triggering Article 50. Britain’s biggest peace-time crisis must be resolved through the democratic process.

# Spelling out the government’s RBI windfall

The final impact of such infusions on the bank’s independence would depend upon the future course of such transfers



PARTHA RAY

The transfer of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) surplus to the government is a routine matter. Every year after the finalisation of the accounts of the RBI its surplus is transferred to the Central government sometime in end-August; this augments the non-tax revenue of the Central government. Normally, an estimate of such a transfer is decided informally between the RBI and the Central government by January and finds a place in the Budget estimate, typically announced in early February. But this year is an exception. The announcement of a huge transfer of RBI surplus, earlier this week, of ₹1.76 lakh crore to the Central government, seems to have generated quite a bit of media attention.

### The two narratives

There are perhaps two caricatured folklore narratives about this increased transfer of RBI surplus.

The first one goes as follows: the government, facing a resource crunch, has arm-twisted the RBI to transfer some of its reserves, which is almost in the nature of family silver. This is not good for the economy. As when and if the economy faces a crisis, the RBI may not have adequate money to protect it. Also it denotes an erosion of the RBI’s independence. This assumes credence in view of the perceived difference of opinion between the RBI and the Central government, that has been highlighted in recent media reports, as well as the resignation of the former RBI Governor, Urjit Patel in

Trends in income, expenditure and net disposable income of the RBI (₹bn)						
Item	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1. Income	646.17	792.56	808.70	618.18	782.81	1,930.36
2. Total expenditure	119.34	133.56	149.90	311.55	282.77	170.456
3. Net disposable income (1-2)	526.83	659.00	658.80	306.63	500.04	1,759.91
4. Transfer to funds	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04
5. Surplus transferred to the Government (3-4)	526.79	658.96	658.76	306.59	500.00	1,759.87

SOURCE: ANNUAL REPORT, RBI, 2018-19



2018. The second one, on the contrary, runs on the following lines: the central bank is a unique institution; it is backed by the faith reposed on it by the the Central government, and therefore, a huge amount of reserves with the central bank is in the nature of idle cash which could have been utilised more productively in the economy. This year, the Central government has done precisely this. The RBI decided to transfer this increased surplus after following due process and after accepting the recommendations of the Jalan Committee (i.e., the expert committee to review the extant economic capital framework of the RBI, headed by the former RBI Governor, Bimal Jalan and with eminent central bankers, bureaucrats, economists and accountants as its members).

Are these competing narratives reflective of the political prior of the exponent? Or, are there more differences in substance?

### Notes on the RBI

The narrative that the RBI is an overcapitalised institution has been in currency for some time. The Economic Survey of 2016-17 found that the RBI is one of the most capitalised central banks in the world and noted, “There is no particular reason why this extra capital should be kept with the RBI”. Later, the former Chief Eco-

nomics Adviser, Arvind Subramanian in his book *Of Counsel: The Challenges of the Modi-Jaitley Economy* (2018) has caricatured the syndrome of treating the government’s capital at the RBI by RBI officials as “prudence or paranoia”. Folklore estimates of excess capital of the RBI in the range of ₹4.5 lakh crore to ₹7 lakh crore seemed to have been blowing in the wind. The issue became all the more controversial after the resignation of Mr. Patel in December 2018 citing personal reasons.

Against this backdrop, the RBI, in consultation with the Government of India, constituted the Jalan Committee to assess the quantum of economic capital of the RBI (in end-November 2019). The committee submitted its report on August 14 and the RBI’s Central Board in its meeting held on August 26, 2019 accepted all the recommendations of the committee; accordingly it finalised its accounts for 2018-19 using the revised framework. According to the accounts, the RBI has ended with an overall surplus of ₹1,759.87 billion in 2018-19 as against ₹500 billion in 2017-18, representing an increase of more than 250% (Table).

But what are the constituents or purposes of the RBI’s excess capital? There are two distinct types of items under it. While “Contingency Fund (CF) and Asset Development Fund (ADF) represent provi-

sions made for unforeseen contingencies and amount set aside for investment in subsidiaries and internal capital expenditure respectively”, components such as, “Currency and Gold Revaluation Account (CGRA), Investment Revaluation Account (IRA) and Foreign Exchange Forward Contracts Valuation Account (FCVA), represent unrealised marked to market gains/losses” (RBI, Annual Report, 2017-18).

In assessing the economic capital framework (ECF) of the RBI, the Jalan Committee justifiably went by the key premise, “As a central bank is a part of the Sovereign, ensuring the credibility of the RBI is as important, if not more, to the Government as it is to the RBI itself”. Insofar as the methodology is concerned, the committee adopted the Expected Shortfall methodology (instead of the existing Stressed Value-at-Risk) for measuring market risk.

### An outlook

But what are the risks to the RBI? In view of the RBI’s function as a lender of last resort, it needs to maintain some Contingent Risk Buffer (CRB) to insure the economy against any tail risk of financial stability crisis. The Jalan Committee recommended that the CRB needs to be “maintained at a range of 5.5 per cent to 6.5 per cent of the RBI’s balance sheet which is

above the available level of 2.4 per cent of balance sheet as on June 30, 2018”. Applying its recommendations to the RBI’s 2017-18 balance sheet would result in RBI’s risk equity levels in a range of 25.4% to 20.8% of balance sheet. In line with the methodology of the Jalan Committee, the amount of transfer of the RBI’s surplus to the government has been placed at ₹1.76 lakh crore this year.

In the lingo of a caricatured two-handed economist, several pointers can be flagged towards deciphering the folklore narratives. First, the Jalan committee does not seem to have compromised on arriving at the economic capital framework of the RBI and has calculated the extent of excess capital of the RBI under a set of fairly standard and conservative assumptions. Second, at this juncture of the Indian economy – when the spectre of a slowdown is looming large and when channels of credit disbursements are choked because of a lack of capital with the commercial banks – a transfer of such additional money to the government could enable the government to go in for bank recapitalisation in a big way and would be good for the economy. Third, the transfer of the additional surplus from the RBI could enable the government to pursue efforts towards stimulating the economy while maintaining budget discipline. Remember, in pursuing the fiscal stimulus of 2007-08, fiscal deficit went up from 2.5% to 6%. Of course, the final impact of such actions on the independence of the RBI would crucially depend upon the future course of such transfers. After all, we all know the story of the goose that laid the golden eggs.

Partha Ray is Professor of Economics at the Indian Institute of Management Calcutta, Kolkata



KRISHNAN SRINIVASAN

Just before the G-20 meeting in Osaka in June this year, Russian President Vladimir Putin made headlines in the world media with an interview to the *Financial Times* in which he stated that liberalism had “become obsolete”. He went on to say that liberal ideas about refugees, migration and LGBTQ issues were now opposed by “the overwhelming majority of the population”. Even some western nations, he went on, had privately admitted that multiculturalism was “no longer tenable”. There was a swift and critical response from the President of the European Council, Donald Tusk: “Whoever claims that liberal democracy is obsolete also claims that freedoms are obsolete, that the rule of law is obsolete and that human rights are obsolete.” This was in fact not what Mr. Putin had alleged, but the wider question is why the Russian President is saying this now and whether he had a point.

### Defining liberalism?

To start with, since liberalism means different things to Mr. Putin and Mr. Tusk, what is liberalism? This complex term, much used in India today in various contexts of opposition to the present Union government – and used in a derogatory sense by supporters of the government in respect of its de-

tractors – might broadly encompass three definitions. There is economic liberalism, which ‘emphasises free competition and the self-regulating market, and which is commonly associated with globalisation and minimal state intervention in the economy’. There is political liberalism, which for most commentators is founded on ‘belief in progress, the essential goodness of the human being, the autonomy of the individual, and standing for political and civil liberties’ as laid out in various United Nations Covenants. And then there is social liberalism, ‘linked to the protection of minority groups, and such issues as LGBTQ rights and same-sex marriage’.

Mr. Putin appeared critical of the ‘approach of some western governments by specifically mentioning immigration, multiculturalism and LGBTQ issues, and therefore seemed to focus on social and political liberalism’. By no means is Mr. Putin the only world leader who dislikes this aspect of liberalism. The leaders of India, China, Turkey, Brazil, the Philippines and several others, even in Europe, believe highly centralised political systems work better for political stability and economic progress than western liberal democracies.

Nevertheless, liberalism has been the dominant socio-political ideology in the West since the end of the Second World War, where it has been regarded as the norm until recently. However, many even in the West now believe it could be in decline, as evidenced by support for Brexit in the United Kingdom, or support for populist leaders such as President Donald



Trump in the U.S., Hungarian President Viktor Orbán or (former) Italian Deputy Prime Minister Matteo Salvini. David Runciman, professor of politics at Cambridge, contends that voters everywhere increasingly dislike and distrust elected representatives because western democracy has ceased to work and failed to deliver, and is headed for a long-drawn-out demise. The financial downturn in 2008 marked a major turning point, with impunity for corrupt bankers and an attempt to return to status quo globalisation that allowed markets to determine everything and led to major questions of identity and culture. Now globalisation is heading for a backlash, leading to protection, local solutions and stronger nation states, and the growing conclusion that liberalism needs urgently to justify itself by addressing issues of inequality and the loss of a sense of community.

### Against migrants

Mr. Putin said Germany made a mistake by admitting more than one million refugees. He said: “This liberal idea presupposes that nothing needs to be done...because their rights as migrants have to be protected... It has come

into conflict with the interests of the overwhelming majority of the population.” There is little doubt that Mr. Trump in America uses the immigration and minority issues, with their racial undertones, to bolster his core support. In European countries such as Greece, Germany and Italy that have been entry points for the recent wave of asylum seekers, attitudes towards immigrants have hardened since 2014. Poland and Hungary do not favour the admission of refugees even fleeing from violence and war, and nearly all European Union members are convinced that the EU has badly mismanaged the question of admission of refugees, which in turn has led to questioning the very basis of Europe’s integration project.

Mr. Putin also deplored liberal governments dictating LGBTQ values that “millions of people making up the core population” opposed. “We have no problem with LGBT persons... but some things do appear excessive to us,” he stated. Gender parity issues are strongly promoted in the British media and entertainment industry, and a storm arose in England recently over the teaching in primary schools of same sex relationships and gender identity. Boycotts of various kinds, including of major sporting events, have been threatened because of alleged anti-gay sentiments or legal restrictions. Nevertheless, same sex marriage is recognised only in some countries, others have the death penalty for homosexuality, and laws regarding LGBTQ rights vary widely across jurisdictions. As a generality, it can be stated that they are disfavoured in the vast

majority of the non-western non-secularised world.

### Liberty vs. protest

Why has Mr. Putin expressed his opinions now to a newspaper considered a flag-bearer of liberalism? The Russian President’s position is that ‘his country has a specific and different kind of civilisation, where sovereignty trumps democracy and national unity, and stability trumps human rights’. Western-style liberalism that prioritises individual rights over those of society is regarded as a ‘challenge to his style of government’, which presents an alternative model. The same view is shared by China. The desire for liberty is recognised as universal, but the freedom to protest in unauthorised demonstrations and wilfully shatter the economy and tourism as in Hong Kong, or the freedom to blaspheme and outrage the sentiments of the devout, as in the French *Charlie Hebdo* case, or the freedom to bear arms as enshrined in the U.S. Constitution, are only random examples that show that liberty has limitations, even if they are self-imposed. Russia and China, with good reason, believe that unauthorised demonstrations open the way to foreign interference and ‘colour revolutions’. No country has found the golden mean between free-range liberalism and statism. When liberal government and liberal models are under pressure even in the flagship West, it is probably ‘as good a time as any for Mr. Putin to make his case’.

Krishnan Srinivasan is a former Foreign Secretary

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

### Unwarranted mergers

The government’s move to merge various Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and reduce their numbers to just 12, is wholly unwarranted and clearly aimed at deflecting public attention from the economic slowdown and the mounting criticism the government is receiving on the Non-Performing Assets front. This comes after its decision to merge associate banks with State Bank of India (SBI) proved to be a big failure. One wonders how the government claims that the present proposal would see formation of bigger PSBs when the earlier such move has failed

to yield results. Any such merger will inevitably lead to branch closures, mass transfers of employees and maximum inconvenience to customers. It is a pity that the government did not think it fit to engage the bank unions before embarking on this risk.

J. ANANTHA PADMANABHAN, Tiruchi

### Kashmiri identity

The author has argued that the loss to Jammu and Kashmir due to the abrogation of special status under Article 370 may be more symbolic than real, and he may be right in doing so (Editorial page,

“On dilution, bifurcation and ‘special status’,” Aug. 30). However, for Kashmiris, Article 370 was not a mere provision in the statute book but an article of faith which sanctified the promise made to them by a secular and democratic India in October 1947, when their Muslim-majority State shunned Jinnah’s two-nation theory and acceded to the Indian Dominion. The actions of August 5 were antithetical to all that was promised and a strike on both the psyche and the identity of ordinary Kashmiris. It is impossible to fathom the hurt they felt to see their State flag

missing from the roof of the Civil Secretariat in Srinagar. They had toiled hard to see it fly high.

BUSHAN LAL SARAF, Jammu

### An underrated actor

It has been my long-time grievance that actor T.S. Balaiiah was never adequately feted for his acting capabilities (Friday Review, “Silverscreen’s jaunty juggler,” Aug. 30). His greatest asset was that he never indulged in overacting. Even when his character had to be shown stumped in a situation, he would express it subtly which only added

more comical quotient to the scene. Though he was not as resoundingly successful as Nagesh, the roles he played continue to be memorable. There was always an element of dignity in his performances. One example is his robust performance as a haughty singer in *Thiruvilayadal*. The song ‘Oru nal poduma’

is even now celebrated for M. Balamuralikrishna’s singing and Balaiiah’s acting. It is sad that he was under-utilised by the Tamil cinema industry. However, had he been alive today, he would have, as was his wont, taken this also lightly.

V. LAKSHMANAN, Tirupur, Tamil Nadu

More letters online:

www.hindu.com/opinion/letters/

### CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

A sentence in the penultimate paragraph of the article titled “On dilution, bifurcation and ‘special status’” (Editorial page, Aug. 30, 2019) read: “For instance, following the 44th Amendment, unlike in the rest of the country, national emergency in J&K could still be imposed on the grounds of ‘internal emergency.’” It should have been *internal disturbance*.

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# Hope and hurt in Ladakh

The Central government's decision to convert Ladakh into a Union Territory set off celebrations in Leh, but raised concerns in Kargil.  
**Damini Nath** reports on the expectations and the apprehensions



There is happiness in the air in Leh (above) following the government's August 5 announcement. (Below): Security personnel keep vigil in Kargil, Ladakh. ■SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

It is a pleasant Tuesday afternoon in Leh. It has been two weeks since the Central government's announcement that Jammu and Kashmir's special status stands scrapped and the State would be split into two Union Territories: Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. Decorations hang overhead in Leh market as visitors mill around and shopkeepers sell handicrafts, shawls, rugs, carpets and stone jewellery. There is happiness in the air.

Just about 200 km away is Kargil's market. Most shops selling clothes, dry fruits and household goods are open. Visitors walk around here too, but no one is rejoicing. Small groups of armed paramilitary personnel stand in the bylanes and crossings; some sit on the steps of shops. They all keep a keen watch on the surroundings. There are barricades erected by the Jammu and Kashmir police throughout the market. Policemen in plain clothes, who identify themselves as 'CID' men, referring to the State Police's Intelligence Wing, walk up and down the streets. They ensure that groups of people disperse, although no restrictions on movement have been officially imposed in Kargil.

Most shops re-opened in Kargil only the previous day, on August 20, after a strike protesting the government's announcement on August 5 was called off. This was one of the many strikes that were called by local religious and political groups under the banner of the Joint Action Committee to protest the decision. The strikes all lasted for a few days, with shops closing and opening intermittently.

The two markets seem like they are located at two ends of the country. But they belong to the same region, Ladakh, which was a part of the State of Jammu and Kashmir and will be a Union Territory without a Legislative Assembly from October 31. Both Leh and Kargil are governed by their own Autonomous Hill Development Councils, each having 30 members.

Soon after the government's announcement, images and videos beamed on televisions and phones of the rest of India, of citizens celebrating in Leh, where a demand for a separate Union Territory of Ladakh has existed for years. There were barely any images from Kargil town, which is unhappy with the government. The two towns are largely divided in their response. But what unites them is anxiety about the future of the Himalayan region.

**Happiness at last**  
In Leh's Thiksey village, a retired State government employee, Nawang Chota, sits outside his home, chatting with a friend. "I am 72 years old. I think the demand for a Union Territory has been there for longer than that," he says. He



smiles broadly: "Now, there is one nation, one Constitution, and we are finally free of Kashmir."

Many in Leh believe that the dominance of Kashmir Valley-based political parties in State politics has resulted in discrimination against Ladakh. They say that Leh has always received less funds than required and has not seen development in years. "The politicians in Jammu and Kashmir ignored us. It doesn't matter if we don't have an Assembly. We have the Hill Council. The government should now strengthen it further," says Chota. "I struggled financially to ensure that my daughter completed her PhD. She completed it in 2016. But she still can't find a job. I hope the government does something about the job scenario," he adds.

Across the highway from Thiksey is Matho village, famously known for the Matho monastery which is perched atop a mountain. Matho is home to the Ladakh Bharatiya Janata Party MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, who gained prominence after his speech in Parliament on Article 370. Tsering Angchok, a farmer in Matho, says the whole village is very happy. He echoes Chota's views and concerns: "Kashmir would take 90% of the funds and leave us with just 10%. Now that won't happen," he says. "But the quality of education here is just not as good as it is in the rest of the country. I don't know how our people will compete with the rest of the country," he says.

Down the road, Chhering Norbu sits outside a *kirana* shop. Norbu is an ex-serviceman. He worked in the State government after retiring from the Army. Retired from that job as well, Norbu hopes that his pension will come on time now.

While the people are jubilant, political leaders in Leh are waiting for the government's next move. Dorje Angchuk, the district unit president of Leh, says the BJP will "go to every village" to make people aware of what really has changed for Ladakh. "Some people are trying to compare us with other Union Territories. We have a Hill Council and the members will now work more like MLAs. Unlike the Delhi government, our Council has control over land. But we are still looking for more protection through the Sixth Schedule," he says.

On August 17, Namgyal wrote to the Union Tribal Affairs Minister, Arjun Munda, asking him to make a representation to Home Minister Amit Shah for declaring Ladakh a tribal area under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. The Constitution makes special provisions for the administration of tribal-dominated areas in four States: Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram. Angchuk is confident the Central government will fulfil Ladakh's dream.

Nawang Rigzin Jora, Leh's Congress MLA and former Jammu and Kashmir Cabinet Minister, has fought for Union Territory status for Ladakh for decades. But he says the demand was always for a Union Territory with a legislature, an elected representative body. His constituency is among the four Ladakh seats in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly that will no longer exist. "We are looking at something like Article 371 that gives constitutional guarantees to the north-eastern States. If the Hill Councils are brought under that, many of our concerns would be taken care of. The BJP's sincerity will be tested on whether it provides this constitutional guarantee," he says.

**Unkept promises of development**  
But standing in Kargil's market as police vehicles race past with sirens blaring, Zarina, a private school teacher, expresses her anger. She says the Central government's decision is akin to "snatching food from our mouths".

"On what basis did the government give us Union Territory status? Union Territories are usually small areas, but Ladakh is a vast region," she says. Leh district, sitting at over 11,500 feet above sea level, has a population of 1.33 lakh. It is among the largest districts in the country in terms of area (45,110 sq km). "Just like the British, the BJP is trying to divide and rule," says Zarina. "They did this just to break the Muslim majority of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. They can talk about development, but no de-

velopment is going to happen. The common people want their rights back." The crowd that gathers around her nods in agreement. Ghulam Raza, a Kargil-based businessman, steps forward. "Modi came here in 2014. He told us that he would bring the 'Gujarat model' to Kargil. We are still waiting for that to happen," he says.

For Raza and many others in Kargil, memories of the 1999 war fought between India and Pakistan in the mountains of the district remain fresh. "We in Kargil sacrificed everything and supported the Army. Our people carried provisions for the forces in the mountains, sometimes wearing their uniforms. Our people lost lives and homes in the shelling. If it had not been for Kargil's people, this would be in Pakistan today," he says, pointing to the ground.

Refuting the government's claim that development works had suffered over the years due to Jammu and Kashmir's status, Raza says the government had promised air connectivity to Kargil as well as a tunnel at Zoji La so that it wouldn't get cut off from Srinagar during winter. "They haven't fulfilled their own promises of development, so why talk of the State government," he asks.

Ladakh's MP refutes these charges. In a crowded room at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi, three weeks after the government's announcement, Namgyal says, "People need not have fears [about land and job security]. We asked for Union Territory status precisely because we didn't have the protections. Under Article 370, our land, jobs, socioeconomic aspects and culture were not secure." On the allegation that the Centre has failed to fulfil its promises, Namgyal says the expansion of Kargil airport "with ₹200 crore given by the government is under process".

"As far as the Zoji La tunnel project is concerned, it was the Modi government that issued tenders. Congress leaders raised some objections. Then there was another tender. IL&FS came, but it had

financial troubles. So, there was yet another tender. The government is making all efforts possible to implement it," he says, as party workers jostle to click selfies with him.

Rejecting the notion that Kargil residents are unhappy with the move and have come out on the streets, Namgyal says a small group of people is protesting "just to lodge its attendance". "Kargil is not just one market. There are people spread over an area of 15,000 sq km. I represent all of them," he says.

In Kargil, though used to the presence of armed forces given Ladakh's location, locals say the sight of gun-wielding soldiers in the market has become the new normal since August 5. "We used to have faith in the government. Most of the people here were supporters of India. Those who used to roam around with the tricolour in hand are now rethinking everything," says Sajjad Hussain, who works as an education and health counsellor with the State government. The right to vote has been "snatched", Hussain adds, with Ladakh's representatives to the Jammu and Kashmir State Assembly not finding any space now.

**Communication woes**  
Though phone lines have not been snapped in Kargil, mobile Internet has been cut off by the government citing "law and order" as the reason. Phone and Internet services in Leh have not been cut off, but the communication lockdown in the rest of Jammu and Kashmir has affected citizens.

Mohammad Ali, a household goods shop owner in Kargil, says transporters have started demanding double the rate to bring products from Srinagar, fearing trouble. "Our stocks are running low. We did a hartal and it caused us losses, but we will keep our shops closed for a month if we have to. Article 370 was the backbone of Jammu and Kashmir and the government has removed it. We will not step back. We will continue our protests," he says.

"They have turned Jammu and Kashmir into a jail. Is this democracy? We can't speak to our relatives," says Abdul Ghani Shah, a businessman from downtown Srinagar who is in Kargil on work. Interrupting him, a farmer, Mohammad Abbas, says, "Look, I'm dialling the landline number of my relative." The phone doesn't connect though it has been a few days since the government announced restoration of landline connectivity in the Valley. Abbas says this news was merely "propaganda by the media".

Gyurmert, a taxi driver in Leh, rushes home three times a day in between airport drops and city sightseeing trips with tourists. In November last year, he was diagnosed with kidney failure,

which means he needs to get peritoneal dialysis done at home thrice a day. The solution that he needs for the procedure comes from Srinagar. "The phones are not working, so I have not been able to order the fluid. I'm running out of it. I don't know when and how I will be able to get more. The other route to get it is through Manali, but it's much longer and more expensive," he says.

**An uncertain future**  
For now, Kargil is waiting and watching. Sheikh Nazir Mehdi Mohammadi, president of the Islamia School that is the hub of the Shia Muslim community in Kargil, and the chairman of the Joint Action Committee, says there is a lot of visible anger. "Since August 5, there have been protests and hartals. There were some students from outside who resorted to pelting stones and objectionable sloganeering. We made it clear in the Friday prayers that we condemn this. We are reminding people to respect the law and to demand our rights within the law," he says. The committee, he says, may call another hartal if the Chief Secretary does not meet its representatives.

The Ladakhis fear that outsiders may buy land and take away their jobs which were earlier kept for the locals. With the isolated region already facing employment issues (according to the 2011 Census, the percentage of non-workers in Leh and Kargil districts are 43.76% and 63.16%, respectively), jobs seem to be on everyone's mind. "The next generation will suffer the most," says Najumunisa, a government staff nurse working in Kargil town. If they have to compete with students from across the country for government jobs, they will find it all the more difficult to find employment now, she says.

Zehra Bano in Chuchot Shama village in Leh is stunned that the decision was taken without consulting anyone. "Even when there is a wedding in the village, we all get together before it is fixed. Here the government took such a big decision, but didn't talk to anyone," she says quietly. Her puzzlement slowly turns to anger. "They [government] can do anything they want. But they can at least keep the phones working, right? Our children are studying in Srinagar and we can't speak to them. What is the fault of our poor children? My brothers are all in the Army. We have given our lives for Hindustan, but Hindustan has done this to us," she says.

Everyone is worried about the future. In Leh, though happy, people want to know if their land and employment opportunities will be protected. Kargil's residents want to find out where the office of the new Lieutenant-Governor will be. Questions and concerns are many, answers and assurances few.



FROM PAGE ONE

## 10 public sector banks to be merged

The fourth merger is of Indian Bank and Allahabad Bank. This, too, would lead to a doubling of the size of the business and also lead to a huge potential for scaling up due to the complementary networks of the two banks.

“There will be no retrenchment due to these mergers, as was shown in the case of the Bank of Baroda merger also,” Ms. Sitharaman said. “The employees received the best of the employee benefits and the admin staff was redeployed for business.”

Following all these mergers, the country will have a total of 12 public sector banks, half of which – Punjab National Bank, Canara Bank, Union Bank of India, Indian Bank, State Bank of India, and Bank of Baroda – will be able to compete at a global level, the Finance Minister said.

Bank of India and Central

Bank of India will both be able to expand their national presences, she said, while Indian Overseas Bank, UCO Bank, Bank of Maharashtra, and Punjab and Sind Bank will be able to strengthen their regional focus.

The government did not give the date by which these mergers are to be completed, as that decision will be taken following further consolidation with the relevant banks.

Apart from the mergers, Ms. Sitharaman also announced a number of smaller reforms to the boards of the banks aimed at improving their efficiency and accountability. In order to make the management accountable to the boards of the banks, a board committee would be made in charge of appraising the performance of officers of the rank of general managers and above, including the managing director.

## GDP growth down to 6-year low in Q1

“Together with steps taken by the government for the banks and the financial sector, and structural reforms, investment should continue improving and drive economy to higher growth,” Mr. Subramanian said.

“The growth slowdown was led by private final consumption expenditure, which grew 3.1% only (18 quarter low),” Devendra Pant, Chief Economist, India Ratings and Research said.

“Investment demand also remained lacklustre and fixed capital formation grew 4%. Only government expenditure provided support to growth and increased 8.8%.”

“While general elections in April-May 2019 had some impact on investment growth, the collapse of private consumption demand from 10.6% in the fourth quarter of the financial year

## Modi-made disaster, says Congress

The Congress on Friday said that the latest slump in growth of India's Gross Domestic Product was a “Modi-made disaster” and demanded a white paper on “shrinking economy and rising frauds”.

The party also demanded that a ‘financial emergency’ be declared, without elaborating. The Congress also claimed that the truth about the economy could not be hidden by “headline management”.

2017-18 to 3.1% in the first quarter of the financial year 2019-20 is a real cause of concern,” Mr. Pant added.

## Anxious Assam readies for headcount results

“There is a degree of panic, but people know there are options to challenge exclusions. The fear of the Assamese people from being overrun by outsiders had triggered this exercise, which we feel was necessary to stop viewing the minority people as Bangladeshi,” said Moniruz Zaman, leader of the All Assam Minority Students’ Union.

But the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party has panned the NRC for being faulty.

“We think it has included the names of many foreign-

ers. This was why we had wanted a large-scale re-verification,” State party president Ranjeet Kumar Dass said.

A senior government official in Delhi said the Unique Identity Authority of India (UIDAI) has recorded the biometric details of all the persons who had filed claims under the NRC exercise and Aadhaar cards will be issued to them if their names are included in the final register.

(With inputs from Vijaita Singh)

## Terror funding case: NIA summons Delhi doctor

He was summoned by the NIA under Section 160 CrPC (Police officer's power to require attendance of witnesses) read with 43F of UAPA (Obligation to furnish information).

The government official said, “He was called to appear as a witness in the 2017 terror funding case.”

The summons come days after Dr. Kaul appeared on NDTV on a discussion on amendment to Article 370 that gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking on the show recorded on August 8, he said, “Is it revenge now? What was done in 1990 (exodus of Kashmiri Pandits) ...are we taking revenge on Kashmiri Muslims now? That I cannot understand, Article 370 and politics of 370, it has been hollowed ...as Nehru said it will die on its own...people in the rest of the country do

not even know what 370 means...”

Asked if the NIA called him in because of his participation in the TV discussion, he said: “I can't really say anything. I guess they are just trying to connect something somewhere somehow.”

**Malik's ideology**

Dr. Kaul said he was asked if he was familiar with Malik's ideology. “I told them that he was a patient for me and there has been absolutely no reason for me to enquire about his personal beliefs and ideology.”

Malik was arrested on February 22 from his Maisuma residence in Srinagar, a week after the Pulwama terror attack and was booked under the Public Safety Act. He was arrested by the NIA on April 10 and has been in Tihar jail since.

# Expect peace after NRC release, says Assam DGP

He says situation is normal and under control

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI**

The Assam Police have dispelled “apprehensions” about the deterioration of law and order in the State after the publication of the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) on Saturday.

But it said 218 companies of Central paramilitary forces, besides the State police, have been deployed following a security assessment by the district police chiefs.

“The situation is absolutely normal and under control. We expect people to cooperate and show restraint similar to the period after the publication of the first two drafts of the NRC (in Decem-

**Dossier of residents**

Assam's National Register of Citizens (NRC) has been in the making for more than 40 years. A timeline of the verification exercise

<b>1951:</b> First NRC published with data from the first post-independence Census		<b>Dec. 31, 2017:</b> First NRC draft was published with 1.9 cr. names out of 3.29 cr. applicants	<b>NRC IN NUMBERS</b>
<b>Jan. 1980:</b> All Assam Students' Union demands an update of the NRC	<b>In or out?</b> Villagers having a discussion in Doipara, Morigaon district on Friday. ■ RITU RAJ KONWAR	<b>July 30, 2018:</b> Second draft published with 41.07 lakh people excluded	
<b>Aug. 1985:</b> Assam Accord signed with NRC update as point of agreement		<b>June 26, 2019:</b> Additional exclusion list published with 1.02 lakh names	
<b>July 2009:</b> NGO Assam Public Works moves Supreme Court, claiming that 41 lakh foreigners are in the State's electoral rolls		<b>April 2010:</b> Centre decides to conduct pilot NRC project in Barpeta and Chhaygaon	
	<b>July 2010:</b> Chhaygaon pilot project succeeds but death of four in police firing halts Barpeta exercise		
<b>Aug. 31, 2019:</b> Publication of final NRC expected			

**3.29 cr.** Total applicants  
**41.09 lakh** Names excluded  
**3.61 lakh** Didn't reapply after exclusion

**₹1,220 crore** Cost of the exercise in more than five years  
**2,500** Total NRC service centres  
**55,000** Government employees engaged in the exercise

**120 days** Time limit for the excluded to appeal against exclusion  
**6 crore** Documents processed at NRC centres  
**6 months** Maximum time for Foreigners' Tribunals to decide on appeals

ber 2017 and July 2018),” Director-General of Police Kuladhar Saikia said at the police headquarters in Guwahati on Friday. “We have taken various measures such as holding meetings with civil society organisations, panchayat leaders and vil-

lage defence forces. But troublemakers will be dealt with firmly.”

The DGP said the Superintendents of Police had assessed the vulnerability and sensitivity in all the districts. “Of the 2,500 NRC service centres, 1,200 were found to

be sensitive during the publication of the last draft. The number of such centres has varied from time to time,” he said.

Mr. Saikia said police control rooms across the State had been coordinating with the headquarters and NRC

authorities to ensure peace and tranquillity. The cyber-cell has also been monitoring social media activities to zero in on people uploading offensive or communal content related to the NRC.

“We have over the past few months organised

awareness programmes among school, college students and others across the State on the proper use of social media,” he said.

The government has, meanwhile, imposed Section 144 in Guwahati and other urban centres.

# On eve of NRC release, people throng Bengal Archives

The excluded seek certificates showing their ancestors' names on the neighbouring State's voters' lists as legacy data

**SHIV SAHAY SINGH KOLKATA**

Barely hours before the publication of the National Register of Citizens (NRC), Bishal Biswas sat at the office of the West Bengal State Archives in Kolkata, almost 1,000 km from his home in Rangia town of Assam's Kamrup district. With the 23-year-old and three other members of his family, including his grandmother, finding their names missing from the NRC, Mr. Biswas was at the archives to trace legacy data.

Mr. Biswas's late grandfather Suresh Biswas and grandmother Basana Biswas hailed from West Bengal's Cooch Behar and he hoped to find their names in the voters list of the Tufanganj As-

sembly seat of Cooch Behar district. Mr. Biswas was accompanied by his friend and neighbour Chandan Das, who faces a similar predicament: the exclusion of the names of family members in the NRC. Both had arrived at the archives around 11 a.m., and hoped that they would get the certificates by evening.

By the evening, both Mr. Biswas and Mr. Das had located the names of their grandparents in the voters' list of Tufanganj for the 1966 Assembly polls. Certificates mentioning the names of their grandparents with relevant details like the father's name and address were provided by the State Archives on payment of ₹20 as search fees and ₹5 as the charge for



**Desperate search:** Bishal Biswas and Chandan Das, residents of Rangia in Assam, at the Bengal archives. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

a certified copy.

“I know it is too late,” Mr. Biswas said. “But we are hoping against hope. Maybe these documents will help us prove our case before courts,” he added. Mr. Das, however, was not optimistic,

ing Kohinoor Begum, Abu Zafer, Saifuddin Mondal and Anwar Hossain Mondal were among those who had collected certificates, which they intend to use as legacy data.

In fact, Anwar Hossain was among the first to arrive at the government office at 10 a.m. His niece Noor Jahan, who had been married into a family in Assam's Dhubri, has been left out of the NRC and the uncle was seeking details on Noor Jahan's grandfather, Chaleman Mian, in any of the voters' lists from the 1950s or 1960s in Cooch Behar.

Descendants of all Indian citizens, who moved to Assam after March 24, 1971, are eligible to register for the NRC, provided they furnish

proof of residence in another part of the country as on or before that day.

**4,000 certificates**

Subodh Chandra Das, Assistant Director of the State Archives, said that between August 1 and 30, 207 certificates had been issued to people from Assam.

“You cannot turn them away. They come here with so much hope. I don't know what they will do with these documents hours before the final list. But we are giving them anyway,” Mr. Das of the the Archives said.

“The Archives has issued 4,000 certificates in the past two years,” Mr. Das said. “I expect to see a few people applying [even] on Monday,” he added.

# Kamal Nath meets Sonia amid reports of a tussle in State unit

He denied reports of Jyotiraditya Scindia's ultimatum to party

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI**

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath on Friday met Congress president Sonia Gandhi in her residence amid reports of a tussle among various factions in the Madhya Pradesh Congress Committee.

Mr. Nath heads the MPCC, and reports say his colleague and former Lok Sabha member, Jyotiraditya Scindia, is peeved at being “sidelined” from State politics. He is reported to have given an ultimatum to his party or he could explore other options. Asked about it, Mr. Nath said, “I don't believe it. I don't think that is the case.”

**Scindia supporters**

Mr. Scindia's supporters, including Ministers in the State government, have been vocal about making him the State chief and were upset with the party for



making him the Chairman of the Screening Committee to decide candidates for the Maharashtra Assembly elections.

They argued that it was a way to keep Mr. Scindia out of M.P. politics while other names like Ajay Singh, son of late Arjun Singh, were being considered.

“I have been saying for the past six months that there should be a new Con-

## Amarinder calls for probe in Pak. case

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH**

Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh on Friday asked Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan to take action in an alleged case of abduction and forcible conversion of a Sikh girl into Islam. He also urged External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to take up the issue with his Pakistani counterpart.

“Shocking incident of a Sikh girl being kidnapped & forced to convert to Islam in Nankana Sahib, Pakistan. Call upon @ImranKhanPTI to take firm and immediate action against the perpetrators. Request @DrS Jaishankar to strongly take up the issue with his counterpart at the earliest,” Captain Singh tweeted on Friday, tagging a video.

Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal expressed concern over the safety of minorities in Pakistan.

# Principal Secretary to Modi quits PMO

Misra is likely to be appointed Delhi L-G

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT AHMEDABAD**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's top bureaucratic aide and Principal Secretary (PS) since 2014, Nripendra Misra, quit on Friday, prompting a rejig in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). He, however, will continue for two more weeks on Mr. Modi's request.

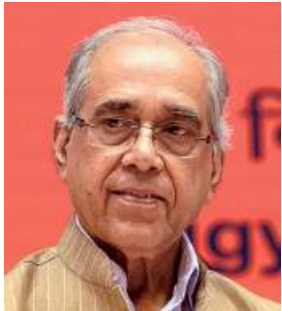
Mr. Modi has appointed outgoing Cabinet Secretary P.K. Sinha as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the PMO.

Top sources told *The Hindu* that P.K. Mishra, currently Additional PS to the Prime Minister, is set to replace Mr. Misra, and Mr. Sinha will become the Additional PS. The sources indicated that Mr. Misra is likely to be appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Delhi.

“Shri Nripendra Misra is among the most outstanding officers, who has a great grasp of public policy and administration. When I was new to Delhi in 2014, he taught me a lot and his guidance remains extremely valuable,” Mr. Modi tweeted.

According to Mr. Modi, Mr. Misra had helped him not just on a personal capacity but had been an important aide in the past five years in the PMO. He added that Mr. Misra, 74, had expressed his wish to quit after the election, but had continued on his request.

In a press statement, Mr.



Nripendra Misra

Misra, a U.P.-cadre IAS officer who served as Secretary, Telecom, and Secretary, Fertilizers, and also as chairperson of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, thanked Mr. Modi for the opportunity to work in the PMO and for placing complete faith in him. “I am deeply grateful to him for this opportunity and the complete confidence he has placed in me,” he said.

A number of appointments were made in the PMO on Friday. Arvind Shrivastava, Joint Secretary, Economic Affairs, Finance Ministry, has been shifted to the PMO. Four Deputy Secretaries were also appointed – Gujarat-cadre IAS officer Hardik Shah, currently Private Secretary to the Union Environment Minister; two Indian Foreign Service officers, Abhishek Shukla of the 2006 batch and Pratik Mathur of the 2007 batch; and Saurabh Shukla of the Indian Audit & Accounts Service.

## H.P. passes Bill against conversion by force

New stringent legislation required: CM

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA SHIMLA**

The Himachal Pradesh Assembly passed a Bill on Friday against conversion by force, inducement or through marriages solemnised for the “sole purpose” of adopting a new religion.

The Opposition supported the Himachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Bill, 2019, which was passed unanimously by voice vote.

Replying to the discussion, Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur said a new stringent legislation was required as “forced conversion”, especially in Rampur and Kinnaur, was “on the rise”.

The Bill seeks to repeal the Himachal Pradesh Free-

dom of Religion Act, 2006, which is on similar lines. The new Bill proposes stricter punishments – up to seven years in jail – compared to the three years under the existing law.

The Bill prohibits conversion by misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, inducement, marriage or fraudulent means. Any marriage for the sole purpose of conversion will also be declared null and void under Section 5 of the Bill.

While participating in the discussion on the Bill, Congress legislators Asha Kumari, Sukhvinder Sukhu, Jagat Singh Negi and lone CPI(M) MLA Rakesh Singha sought changes in some clauses.

## Delhi court extends CBI custody of Chidambaram

It is the second extension of his remand

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI**

A court for CBI cases here on Friday further extended for three days the CBI custody of former Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram in the INX Media case.

Extending the remand till September 2, special judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar said: “Given the fact that the record is voluminous and accused needs to be confronted, remand is extended till September 2.”


It is the second extension of his remand since the former Minister was for the first time sent to CBI custody for four days on August 22 following his arrest on the preceding day. Altogeth-



P. Chidambaram outside the CBI court on Friday. ■ PTI

er, the probe agency has so far got eight days' of custody of the senior Congress leader.

Mr. Chidambaram also made submissions before the court in person. He said he was being shown three files daily, and so far 400 questions had been put to him. He also opposed the CBI custody.



**APEAL**

Name of Patient: **Binita Nandi**, 13 years.  
Hospital Name: Christian Medical College,  
Diagnosis: Undergoing treatment for Renal Sarcoma in our Department since August 2018. Her treatment is for 14-16 months and total cost of treatment is Rs. 6.5 Lakhs. We request kind Hearted Philanthropists to save her. Kindly send donation by Cheque/ D.D/M.O favouring Save Poor Lives A/c Binita Nandi. SIB Account No. 20000913487, State Bank of India, Raja Annamalaiapuram Branch, IFSC Code: SBIN0001855, which is exempted under 80G of I.T. Act.  
Contact: SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST (ADMIN. DIVISION) Flat No.A4, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No.76 Kamaraajar Salai, Raja Annamalaiapuram, Chennai - 600 028. Ph. 044-42044165, Mobile: 9884607377, Email: savepoorlives@gmail.com Our website: www.savepoorlives.com  
Donation given to patients upto March 2019 for Rs. 4,26,89,335/- and Scholarship 7,30,800/-



Dialogue must despite differences, says PM

‘We need not agree, but there must be enough civility’

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said that while there may be differences between individuals and organisations, “differing streams” should listen to each other’s point of view.

Addressing the Manorama News Conclave in Kochi via a video link from here, Mr. Modi said that there should be continuous dialogue in society despite differing views.

“We need not agree with everything, but there must be enough civility in public life for differing streams to be able to hear each other’s point of view,” the Prime Minister said.

“It is believed that public figures prefer to be on fo-



Narendra Modi

rum’s whose thought process matches with their own world view, because there is a lot of comfort in being among such people. Of course, I also cherish being in such surroundings, but I believe there must be constant and continuous dialogue between individuals and organisations irrespective of one’s thought

process,” he said.

For many years, he said, a culture prevailed, which considered aspiration a bad thing.

Surnames don’t matter

He said doors opened depending on one’s surname or contacts. “Success depended on whether you belonged to an old boy’s club. Big cities, big institutions and big families is all that mattered,” the Prime Minister said.

He said, “Licence raj and permit raj struck at the heart of individual ambitions” but India was changing for the better.

“This is an India where surnames of the youth do not matter. What matters is their ability to make their own name,” he said.

Shia Waqf Board begins submissions

It disputes Sunni claim to Ayodhya site

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Hindu Mahasabha on Friday argued before the Ayodhya Bench of the Supreme Court that the first Mughal emperor, Babur, was an invader and the law could not be used to “institutionalise” the rights of an invader.

Hari Shankar Jain, advocate of the Mahasabha, said the “black days of slavery are behind us, and we are living in a civilised society”.

He said the Babri Masjid was constructed after the destruction of a Hindu religious structure. This did not essentially make it a mosque.

The 16th day of arguments in the Ayodhya appeals before a Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi saw the submissions of the Hindu side come to an end.

The Shia Waqf Board began its submissions by questioning the claim of the Sunni section over the disputed land.

In August 2017, the Shia Central Waqf Board had moved the Supreme Court claiming that the Babri Masjid was a Shia Waqf (endowment) and its Sunni counterpart, which has been at the front lines of the 70-year-old Ramjanmabhoomi-Babri Masjid title dispute, was a mere interloper led by “har-

Dhavan alleges intimidation

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan on Friday sought contempt proceedings against a Chennai-based man for allegedly intimidating him for representing the Sunni Wakf Board. He annexed a letter written by Professor N. Shanmugham making foreboding remarks and screenshots of WhatsApp messages sent by a Sanjay Kalal Bajrangi in his petition.

.....  
dliners, fanatics and non-believers” who do not want an amicable settlement with the Hindu sects involved.

Tracing the lineage of the masjid, which was razed down by karsevakhs in 1992, to Mir Baqi, believed to be a Shia noble in Babur’s court, the Shia Board had said that, unlike the Uttar Pradesh Sunni Central Waqf Board chiefs, they wanted a peaceful coexistence with the Hindu community

The Shia Board said they would settle for a masjid located in a “Muslim-dominated area at a reasonable distance from the most revered place of birth of Maryada Purushottam Sri Ram.”

India, Pak. to join SAARC event in U.S.

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE  
NEW DELHI

India and Pakistan are expected to participate in the Foreign Minister-level meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) in New York on September 26, a diplomatic source has confirmed. The meeting has remained on track despite the state of tension between the two countries.

“We have asked both India and Pakistan informally and formally if they would proceed with the planned meeting of September 26 in New York and they have communicated that there is no change in the previous plans,” said the source. The meeting is an annual affair that takes place on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly’s session. It will be the first occasion since August 5, where the Foreign Ministers will be seen in a single venue.

The person concerned said India had confirmed participation of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar before the current tensions erupted over Kashmir. On Thursday it reminded Pakistan to tone down rhetoric and urged it to behave like a “normal neighbour”.

J&K children to get psychological first aid

Hospital opens child-friendly centres as the long lockdown can inflict psycho-social trauma

PEERZADA ASHIQ  
SRINAGAR

The lockdown and communication blockade in Jammu and Kashmir can potentially inflict short- or long-term psycho-social trauma in children, say doctors at the Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (IMHANS) of the Government Medical College here.

“Adults may adapt to the clampdown through culturally transmitted coping mechanisms such as indulging in shop-front debates. However, it’s taking a toll on the mental health of children with their eight-hour routine completely disturbed. They have no access to schools, any means of entertainment or the Internet, making them vulnerable to psycho-social abnormalities,” says Zaid Ahmad, a senior psychiatrist at the institute.



On the brink: Children have no peer interactions, denying them a coping mechanism. •GETTY IMAGES

The IMHANS has come up with a contingency plan and in the first phase, will reach out to children (up to the age of 16) in distress in the districts of Kulgam, Shopian, Anantnag and Pulwama. The UNICEF-backed Child Guidance and Wellbeing Centre

at the IMHANS has identified child-friendly centres in schools, homes and anganwadi centres in these districts “to provide psychological first aid”.

“The animators and volunteers at the 36 centres will be given training on psychologi-

cal first aid to deal with children facing mental health issues,” Syed Karrar Hussain, a child psychiatrist with the UNICEF, told *The Hindu*.

The need for a contingency plan was felt after the number of the children visiting IMHANS fell by one-fifth

after the August 5 decision.

“Those who visited us complained of flared-up symptoms because of the fearful environs and dysfunctional social spaces. There is no peer group interaction, allowing children to share their stories, that act as a protective mechanism. Parents are finding it hard to deal with such children,” Dr. Hussain said.

Permanent scars

He said that in case of prolonged absence of normalcy, reserves of coping mechanisms may vanish. “Once a child exhausts all coping measures, he starts internalising the situation, resulting in self-perpetuating transmission of memory. The trauma inflicted may keep manifesting itself later in the life, and child delinquency is likely to go up,” he said.

More U.S. lawmakers raise concerns over Kashmir

There will be consequences for the whole world, Imran writes

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN  
WASHINGTON DC

Weeks after India ended the special status for Jammu & Kashmir and decided to reorganise the State into two Union Territories, attention on the issue persists in Washington, with many members of the U.S. Congress entering the fray.

“I am excited to see so many members joining us in calling attention to what is happening in Kashmir. Please continue to call your members and ask them to speak up. We expect openness from India,” Representative Ilhan Omar, a Minneso-

ta Democrat, tweeted, referring to a comment from Ted Lieu, a California Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

“Democracies like India should not be engaging in a communications blackout that has lasted over three weeks. We need de-escalation, not the hiding of what’s happening,” Mr. Lieu had said on Twitter, referring to a tweet from Representative Don Boyer, a Virginia Democrat.

The number of lawmakers commenting on Kashmir could possibly increase when the Congress, which is

in recess, reconvenes in September.

Imran Khan’s Op-Ed

On Friday, Pakistan PM Imran Khan wrote an Op-Ed in the *New York Times* saying, “If the world does nothing to stop the Indian assault on Kashmir and its people, there will be consequences for the whole world as two nuclear-armed States get ever closer to a direct military confrontation.” He spoke about Mr. Modi’s political ideology and background, the RSS and former RSS leader M.S. Golwalkar’s admiration for Hitler and Mussolini.

Situation contrary to Centre’s claims: Yechury

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The ground situation in Kashmir is “completely contrary” to what the Narendra Modi government has been saying, CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury said after returning from Srinagar where he met his ailing party colleague Yusuf Tarigami.

Mr. Yechury refused to give any further details since the Supreme Court had laid down the condition that he should not indulge in politics during his trip. He would be submitting an affidavit in the court as directed by it.

Mr. Yechury, who filed a *habeas corpus* petition in the court requesting that



Sitaram Yechury

Mr. Tarigami be produced, was granted permission to visit him.

Mr. Yechury said the moment he landed in Srinagar, the officials told him that he would have to return by a 5.30 p.m. flight but he insisted on staying overnight.

Even during his meeting with Mr. Tarigami, security officials were present.

**Ferro Scrap Nigam Ltd.**  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)  
EQUIPMENT CHOWK, CENTRAL AVENUE, POST BOX NO. 37, BHILAI-492001 (C.I.)  
PH: 031-2551750 FAX: 031-2551740  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
Sealed Tenders are invited for the following:-  
1. **TN-2/2019-20:** To provide on hire 10 nos. Tipper (16 MT) for transportation of processed LD Slag, work through slag and SMS PIT Slag at Vizag unit inside VSP.  
2. **TN-3/2019-20:** Hydraulic Material Handler- 65 Ton Class working weight.  
3. **TN-4/2019-20:** Pickup Truck with Cabin & Load Body having payload capacity 2.20 to 3.5 Ton.  
4. **TN-5/2019-20:** Internal Audit Work of FSNL for the year 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23.  
5. **TN-6/2019-20:** Sale of credit Notes issued by NINL.  
The due date for submission of tenders will be on or before **30.09.2019** by 2.30 PM and tenders will be opened on **30.09.2019** at 3.00 PM. Visit our website [www.fsnl.nic.in](http://www.fsnl.nic.in) for tender documents. Corrigendum, time extensions etc. **GW (MM)**

**SOUTHERN RAILWAY**  
(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)  
**Tender Notice No.OHE/CN/Dy.CEE/2019-20/02 dated 28.08.2019**  
For and on behalf of The President of India, The Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/OHE, Construction, Southern Railway, Chennai Egmore invites E-Tender for the following works.  
“Power supply installation works in connection with the electrification of 3<sup>rd</sup> line between Tambaram and Chengalpattu in Chennai Beach - Villupuram section in Chennai Division of Southern Railway”  
Date of opening of Tender: 27.09.2019  
For more details visit [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
**Dy.Chief Electrical Engineer/OHE Electrical, Construction/Ch-8**

**DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (NW) II**  
**H-BLOCK: SECTOR-15: ROHINI: DELHI-110089**  
**PH: 27851040 (E-MAIL: [eenw2.djb@gmail.com](mailto:eenw2.djb@gmail.com))**  
**PRESS NIT No. 25 (2019-20)**  
**Press Notice Tender**  

S. No	Name of Work	Amount put to Tender	Earnest Money/ Tender Fee	Date of release of tender procurement solution/I.D.No.	Last date/time of receipt of bid through e-procurement solution
1.	P/L/J150/100 mm dia DI water line in Trivani colony Pawan Dham in Bakhtawar Pur Village in AC-01, Narala under EE (NW)-II	Rs. 90,37,744/-	Rs. 1,80,800/- Rs. 1000/-	29.08.2019 2019_DJB_179169_1	12.09.2019 Upto 3.00 PM
2.	Improving water supply by replacing of old damaged water lines in A and B Blocks of Sector-25, Rohini, J.R. in AC-07 Bawana under EE(NW)-II (Re-invite)	Rs. 45,00,660/-	Rs. 90,100/- Rs. 500/-	29.08.2019 2019_DJB_179182_1	12.09.2019 Upto 3.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>  
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)  
Advt. No. J.S.V. 311/2019-20  
Executive Engineer (NW) II

**Government of India**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY**  
**NUCLEAR FUEL COMPLEX**  
Civil Engineering Division, 2nd Floor, Sarathi Building,  
ECIL Post, Hyderabad-500 062  
(An ISO 9001, ISO 14001 & OHSAS 18001 Organization).  
**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS, TENDER NOTICE (T.N.) NO.C/1207/2019 to C/1210/2019**  
Online item rate e-tenders in single envelope system are invited on behalf of the President of India by Sr. Superintending Engineer (Q, PH, CMS & EM), address mentioned above Phone No. 040-27184296 from eligible contractors for the following works.  

S. No.	Tender Notice No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (EC) (Rs. in Lakhs)	Estimated Cost (EC) (Rs. in Lakhs)	Dates for tender request upto 21.00 hrs	Last Date online submission of bids upto 21.00 hrs	Date of submission of hard copies at 14.00 hrs	Time of completion (months)
1	C/1207/2019	Providing and Fixing PU Coated Structural Steel Supporting System for Scrubber at ZSP	44.00	0.88	31.08.2019 to 13.09.2019	20.09.2019	27.09.2019	08
2	C/1208/2019	Civil, structural steel and other allied works for expansion of existing Gas Cylinder Storage Sheds Bay at Central Stores at NFC, Hyd.	168.00	3.36	31.08.2019 to 13.09.2019	20.09.2019	27.09.2019	12
3	C/1209/2019	Civil, structural steel works for construction of open sheds behind FRF at NFC, Hyd	55.00	1.1	05.09.2019 to 20.09.2019	27.09.2019	04.10.2019	06

e-Tender document for participation is available on [www.tenderwizard.com/DAE](http://www.tenderwizard.com/DAE). Bidders have to register for e-tendering which is compulsory for participating in tendering. For e-Tender details contact Sri Vishal Cell No. 09849585902.  
**TENDER IN MANUAL MODE**  
**NAME OF WORK :** Demolition of Old Chlorination Plant(ZSP) and Existing Titanium Pilot Plant at NFC, Hyd. TENDER NOTICE NO.C/1210/2019. Estimated Cost Rs.19.00 lakhs. EMD : Rs.0.38 lakhs. Cost of Tender Rs.500/- in favour of PAO, NFC. Sale of Tenders from 05.09.2019 to 26.09.2019 from the above address. Last Date for submission of Tender documents is 01.10.2019 before 14.00 hrs.  
Detailed NIT for details available on website [www.nfc.gov.in](http://www.nfc.gov.in). Tenders will be opened for all the tenders at 15.00 hrs. on the same day of submission of hard copies.  
**CORRIGENDUM**  
Dates for Tender Notice No. C/1201/2019 for the work “Civil, Structural Steel and PH works for construction of Office cum Stores Building for Central Stores at NFC, Hyd.” are extended. Tender request: Upto 14.09.2019, Online submission: 18.09.2019, submission of hard copies and opening of tender 21.09.2019. BOQ is revised with inclusion of item 5.2. All other conditions remain unaltered. Tender document available in [www.tenderwizard.com/DAE](http://www.tenderwizard.com/DAE).

E-mail ID : [eebngpur@yahoo.com](mailto:eebngpur@yahoo.com); Tel & Fax-06858-222833 (O)  
**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, NABARANGPUR (R&B) DIVISION, NABARANGPUR**  
**e - PROCUREMENT NOTICE**  
**137-B: Bid Identification No. E.E (R&B)-01/2019-20/NGP**  
**No. 3286 Date: 28.08.2019**  
Bid Documents consisting of work, Estimated Cost, Cost of Tender paper, EMD, Time of completion, Class of Contractors and the set of terms and conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen in Govt. Website i.e [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in).  

1. Name of the Work	: Civil Construction Work as mentioned in DTCN
2. No. of Work	: 03 Nos.
3. Estimated Cost	: Rs. 13.41 Lakhs to Rs. 24.05 Lakhs
4. Period of completion	: 3 Calendar Months
5. Date & Time of Bidding	: From 11.00 hours of 10.09.2019 upto 16.00 hours of 20.09.2019.
6. Last date & time for receipt of bids in portal	: 16.00 hours of 20.09.2019.
7. Bids received online shall be opened on	: 11.00 hours of 21.09.2019.
8. Name and address of the Officer inviting Bid	: Executive Engineer, Nabarangpur(R&B) Division, Nabarangpur

Further details can be seen from the [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in)  
34143/11/0004/1920 Sd/- Executive Engineer, Nabarangpur (R&B) Division

**SANJAY GANDHI INSTITUTE OF TRAUMA AND ORTHOPAEDICS**  
(Government of Karnataka Autonomous Institute)  
Byrasandra, Jayanagara East, Bengaluru - 560 011 Ph: 080-26564516, 26562500 Grams: SITO Fax: 26565222 E-mail: [sitodirector@gmail.com](mailto:sitodirector@gmail.com)  
Fellowship programme recognized by Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences.  
**No. SGITO/FELLOWSHIP/ADM/23/2019-20 Date: 30.08.2019**  
**NOTIFICATION**  
**Admission to Fellowship Course for the Academic Year 2019-20**  
The applicants are invited for the admission for the following Fellowship Courses. They should have passed Post Graduation, MS(Ortho)/DNB (Ortho)/M-Ch Neurosurgery MCI Recognized and MDS Faciomaxillary Surgery KSDS recognized.  

Sl. No.	Name of the Fellowship Courses	No. of Seats	Stipend Per Month
01	Fellowship in Spine Surgery	02	45000-00
02	Fellowship in Sports Injury and Arthroscopy	02	45000-00
03	Fellowship in Maxillofacial Trauma	02	45000-00

The applicant should obtain demand draft of **Rs.4000-00** in the favour of Director, Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Trauma & Orthopaedics, Bangalore, along with self profile application with original certificates of S.S.L.C, PUC, UG & PG, KMC/KSDC Reg. Certificate, PG Degree to attend Walk-in-interview will be held on **05.09.2019** at 11:00 am in the Conference hall of this Institution.  
Sd/- Director  
DIPR/1105/2019-20

**CIPET: INSTITUTE OF PLASTICS TECHNOLOGY (IPT) - KOCHI**  
(Dept. of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Govt. of India)  
Floor, Udaygandam P.O., Kochi - 683501.  
Phone: 0484-2551750 / 2551750 Fax: 0484-2551740  
E-mail: [cbpsit@cipet.gov.in](mailto:cbpsit@cipet.gov.in), [cipetkochi@gmail.com](mailto:cipetkochi@gmail.com) Web: [www.cipet.gov.in](http://www.cipet.gov.in)  
**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
No. CIPET: IPT/KOCHI/PUR/BID/2019-20/03  
CIPET: IPT invites e-tender for the supply & installation of Incubator Type Biodegradation Test Set-Up.  
Interested and eligible bidders shall submit e-tender through [www.tenderwizard.com/](http://www.tenderwizard.com/) CIPET. Also visit CIPET website for complete details. CIPET: IPT reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids either in part or in full without assigning any reasons thereof.  
Last date for the online submission of the bid: 12.09.2019, 05.00 p.m.  
Opening of Technical bids: 13.09.2019, 02.00 p.m.  
Opening of Commercial bids: After Evaluation of Technical Bids- **PRINCIPAL DIRECTOR & HEAD**

**Government of Rajasthan**  
**State Forensic Science Laboratory, Jaipur A-3, RPA Road, Nehru Nagar, Jaipur**  
Tel No: 0141-2301584, 2301859  
Website: <http://www.home.rajasthan.gov.in/sfsi>  
**Notice Inviting E-Bid**  
E-bids are invited upto 6.00 P.M. OF 16-09-2019 for Rate Contract of Rs. 467.00 Lakhs Chemicals, Glasswares, Plasticwares, Consumables for Equipments, Crime Scene Kit, Gases Used In Analysis & Instrumentation, Photo Material, DNA Lab Items, Computer Accessories, Miscellaneous Items and UPS Batteries. Details of NIB may be seen and download from the website of State Public procurement Portal <http://sppp.raj.nic.in> (UBN - FSL 1920GLRC00010) [www.diponline.org](http://www.diponline.org), <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> Bid may be downloaded from there.  
Head of the Office  
State Forensic Science Laboratory, Jaipur  
DIPR/C/6977

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY**  
KANKE, RANCHI-834006 (JHARKHAND)  
File No. 3428 Dated : 29.08.2019  
**Open Tender Notice(2019-20)**  
Sealed tenders are invited from resourceful, experienced and bonafide bidders who are technically sound and financially capable for the following work at Central Institute of Psychiatry, Kanke, Ranchi-834006.  

Sl.No	Tender No.	Description of Items / Services	Bid Security Amount
1.	CCN/01/19-20/M&E	Upgradation of existing 40/128 channel Video EEG/ERP System (Galileo Mizar make, EB Neuro make) to 256 Channel Video EEG/ERP System(Under Buy back provisions)	Rs.100000/-
2.	CCN/02/19-20/M&E	Autonomic Nervous Function Measurement System	Rs.100000/-
3.	CCN/03/19-20/M&E	Helmet based Coil for Deep Brain Structure Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (dTMS)	Rs.100000/-
4.	CCN/04/19-20/M&E	TMS Therapy chair (2 nos) with Neuro navigation Accessories (1 no.) for Visor 2.0 3-D Neuro navigation System	Rs.100000/-
5.	CCN/05/19-20/M&E	FMRI (3-Tesla) Compatible 32 Channel HD-IDCSS System	Rs.100000/-
6.	CCN/06/19-20/M&E	Portable 12 Channel ECG System	Rs.50000/-
7.	Gen/01/19-20/M&E	500 KVADG Set	Rs.50000/-
8.	Gen/02/19-20/M&E	CAMC of Entire Solar Packages	Rs.100000/-
9.	Gen/03/19-20/M&E	Outdoor Gym equipments	Rs.25000/-
I.		Air Swing/Surf Board	
II.		Air Walker-I	
III.		Chest Press Cum Seated Puller	
IV.		Double Twister	
V.		Leg Press	
VI.		Parallel Bar	
VII.		Shoulder Builder	
VIII.		Thi-Chi Spinner(4 Wheel	
XI.		Poles with Fixed weight	
10.	Gen/04/19-20/M&E	Flat Plate Solar water Heating System	Rs.10000/-
11.	Gen/05/19-20/M&E	Digital Radiography System with Single Detector for Whole Body Digital radiography	Rs.100000/-

**Note:** - The last date of submission of tender is 20.09.2019 till 4.00 PM  
The Details about above mentioned tender is available in our website i.e. [www.cipranchi.nic.in](http://www.cipranchi.nic.in) and also in CPP Portal website i.e. at the URL [eprocure.gov.in](http://eprocure.gov.in).  
Sd/- Director



# Hong Kong cracks down on protesters

Pro-democracy activists arrested and later released on bail; organisers call off today’s protest march

**REUTERS**  
HONG KONG

Hong Kong authorities on Friday charged pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong with organising an illegal protest as they tighten a clampdown on unrest that has plunged the Asian financial hub into its biggest political crisis in more than two decades.

Mr. Wong, who led pro-democracy demonstrations five years ago that foreshadowed the latest turbulence, is the most prominent activist to be arrested since protests escalated in mid-June over fears China is exerting greater control over the city.

Police arrested several other activists and blocked plans for a mass demonstration on Saturday, in a show

of force a day before the fifth anniversary of China’s decision to rule out universal suffrage in the former British colony.

The bespectacled Mr. Wong, who was 17 when he became the face of the student-led Umbrella Movement, as the 2014 pro-democracy protests were called, has not been a prominent figure in the latest protests, which have no identifiable leaders.

He was released from jail in June after serving a five-week term for contempt of court.

Mr. Wong and fellow activist Agnes Chow were charged with unlawfully organising a public meeting outside police headquarters on June 21. They were re-



**Pressure tactics:** Activists Joshua Wong and Agnes Chow, right, after getting bail in Hong Kong. ■GETTY IMAGES

leased on bail and the case was adjourned until November 8.

“Two months ago I served all of my jail sentence and left prison. Unfortunately, under the chilling effects generated by Beijing and Hong Kong governments, we

are strongly aware how they arrest activists no matter whether they behave progressively or moderately,” he told reporters.

“All we ask for is just to urge Beijing and Hong Kong governments to withdraw the Bill, stop police brutality

and respond to our calls for a free election.”

Andy Chan, a founder of the pro-independence Hong Kong National Party that was banned last September, was arrested at Hong Kong airport on Thursday on suspicion of participating in riots and attacking police, police said.

Mr. Wong’s pro-democracy group, Demosisto, said the arrests were an attempt to scapegoat individuals in a movement that has built momentum without public figureheads.

The Civil Human Rights Front, the organiser of previous protests, cancelled a mass demonstration planned for Saturday after the police refused permission.

## INTERVIEW | ANDRÉ ARANHA CORRÊA DO LAGO

# ‘Amazon fire-fighting is Brazil’s internal problem’

**SUHASINI HAIDAR**  
**KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE**  
NEW DELHI

As fires rage through Brazil’s Amazon forests, the government led by President Jair Bolsonaro has rejected criticism of its handling of the situation and rebuffed a pledge by the G-7 to fund \$20 million for the fire-fighting operation, named “Operation Green Brazil”.

In an interview, Brazilian Ambassador André Aranha Corrêa do Lago says coping with the fires is a challenge, but must be seen as Brazil’s internal problem.



**THE WAY THE ISSUE WAS TAKEN TO THE G-7 WAS A KIND OF AFFRONT TO SOVEREIGNTY OF BRAZIL**  
ANDRÉ ARANHA CORRÊA DO LAGO  
Brazilian Ambassador

**How long will it take to douse the fires and how much is it likely to cost?**  
■ The whole world is looking at this issue because of the severity of the fires, but also because the Amazon is the largest tropical forest left in the world. So the solidarity over the tragedy has been stronger than anyone expected. What we feel in Brazil, as we evaluate the cost and damage, is that it is also necessary to see the context in which these fires are occurring. This is the dry season in Brazil and many fires do occur each year at this time although there have probably been more fires this year. We are taking all measures to control them; our President [Bolsonaro] gave a national address pledging zero tolerance on illegal deforestation, and people deliberately setting fires.

**Why did Brazil reject the G-7 pledge of \$20 million to deal with the fires?**  
■ I think we have to consider the bigger picture: the fires are not a surprise and they are not happening for the

first time. Brazil is a country well capable of dealing with this issue and we have the most experience in tackling these fires. We have already established many international mechanisms to be able to access resources that are needed for this kind of challenge. The way the issue was taken to the G-7 was a kind of affront to Brazil’s sovereignty, as if no one in Brazil was dealing with it, when in fact Brazil is a leader in combating deforestation and forest fires. When the G-7 was discussing the problem in our country, they should have ensured that Brazil was also invited to the session.

**Can the environment ever be a sovereign issue? You may say the Amazon is an internal issue since it is in Brazil but the forests there are called the lungs of the world...**  
■ The issue of sovereignty has been discussed for a long time about the Amazon. Parts of the forest are in different countries and we are each conscious of the treasure we have, and we are all sensitive to the need for

its sustainable development so that it benefits the local populations that live there. We have 20 million people living in the Brazilian Amazon and we need to find activities for them that are compatible with its preservation. Although we are a developing country we have the most extraordinary institutions to study the Amazon and understand how to preserve it. So for the G-7 to believe they can just give a certain amount of money and that will solve the problem is to disrespect the years of work and negotiations that Brazil has undertaken for the Amazon. It has not that we refuse all aid, but it has to be done with some thought.

**Is there space for cooperation with India?**  
■ The Brazilian-preserved Amazon is larger than all of India. Can you imagine what it takes to have capacity and equipment to fight fires in an area the size of India? India and Brazil are very close on all discussions on climate change and in financing for the developing world, particularly in the BASIC group. Very few countries know as much about how Brazil is working on this problem as India because we have a constant dialogue on it.

**PM Modi is travelling to Brazil later this year... Will this be one of the areas of cooperation we will see movement on?**  
■ We have so many areas of cooperation from trade and investment to education and science and technology. On environmental issues and global finance, we are both convinced of the power of multilateralism. Brazil and India are united on this.

## ELSEWHERE



### Iran tanker is now headed to Lebanon, says Turkey

**ISTANBUL**  
Turkey said on Friday that Iranian tanker Adrian Darya, at the centre of a row between the U.S. and Tehran, was headed to Lebanon’s waters after changing course several times, although Beirut said it was not informed of the plan. **REUTERS**

### China expels WSJ scribe who wrote on Xi’s cousin

**BEIJING**  
China has not renewed the press credentials of Chun Han Wong, who worked for the *Wall Street Journal’s* Beijing bureau since 2014, for writing a critical article in July about President Xi Jinping’s cousin. It amounts to the effective expulsion of the journalist. **AFF**

# ‘Mental care to curb gun violence’

White House staff scramble to create more psychiatric hospitals

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
WASHINGTON

When shots rang out last year at a high school in Parkland, Florida, leaving 17 people dead, President Donald Trump quickly turned his thoughts to creating more mental institutions.

When back-to-back mass shootings in Dayton, Ohio, and El Paso, Texas, jolted the nation earlier this month, Mr. Trump again spoke of “building new facilities” for the mentally ill as a way to reduce mass shootings.

“We don’t have those institutions any more and people can’t get proper care,” Mr. Trump lamented at a New Hampshire campaign rally not long after the latest shootings.

Now, in response to Mr. Trump’s concerns, White



Donald Trump

House staff members are looking for ways to incorporate the President’s desire for more institutions into a long list of other measures aimed at reducing gun violence.

**‘Outdated thinking’**  
It’s the latest example of White House policy aides scrambling to come up with concrete policies or propo-

sals to fill out ideas tossed out by the President. And it’s an idea that mental health professionals say reflects outdated thinking on the treatment of mental illness.

As the White House looks for ways to fight gun violence, officials have looked at Indiana as one potential model in addressing mental illness. The State opened a new 159-bed psychiatric hospital in March, Indiana’s first in more than 50 years.

Paul Gionfriddo, president and chief executive of the advocacy group Mental Health America, said Mr. Trump is pursuing a 19th century solution to a 21st century problem. “Anybody with any sense of history understands they were a complete failure. They were money down the drain,” said Mr. Gionfriddo.

# U.S. launches command for space warfare

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE**  
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump has launched a new Pentagon command dedicated to warfare in space, as the U.S. sees China and Russia pressing hard to erode its advantage in the newest military frontier.

“This is a landmark day, one that recognises the centrality of space to America’s security and defence,” Mr. Trump said.

“SpaceCom will ensure that America’s dominance in space is never threatened.”

While the U.S. Air Force already has a dedicated space warfare operation, SpaceCom will heighten its importance and foster specialised systems and training for space showdowns.

# Lankan court orders remains of Easter attacker relocated

Body was buried in a Hindu cemetery after Muslims refused space

**MEERA SRINIVASAN**  
COLOMBO

A Sri Lankan court on Friday directed the police to exhume the remains of an Easter Sunday terror suspect from a cemetery in the eastern district of Batticaloa, following residents’ protests amid tenuous communal relations in the multi-ethnic district.

Earlier, Muslims of Kattankudy town in Batticaloa had rejected burial space for Mohamed Nazar Mohamed Azad, who authorities said blew himself up at the local Zion Church, killing dozens including children in the April 21 Easter Sunday serial

blasts. Over 250 people died and scores were injured in the bombings in and around Colombo and in Batticaloa.

Muslims across the island vehemently condemned the terror attack and refused to allow burial of the suspects’ remains in any of their burial grounds, saying, “They are not Muslims.”

According to *Sunday Times*, the District Secretary of Batticaloa told reporters recently that the authorities decided to bury the remains of the alleged suicide bomber at a Hindu cemetery in Kalliyankaadu.

However, residents and some local politicians pro-

tested, saying the move hurt their sentiments. Protesters took to the streets until police fired tear gas at them, and the situation on the ground remained volatile over the past week.

On Friday, the Batticaloa Magistrate’s Court ordered that the remains of the alleged bomber be exhumed from the Kalliyakandu cemetery, and be buried elsewhere before Sept. 2, local media said. “The remains will be exhumed on Monday and kept in a mortuary until the government agent finds a suitable place to bury them,” police spokesman Ruwan Gunasekera told *Reuters*.

# What’s Boris Johnson’s Brexit strategy?

PM has narrowed the lawmakers’ opportunities to reject his Brexit plans

**STANLEY JOHNNY**

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson’s move to “prorogue” or suspend Parliament for five weeks has triggered furious responses from opposition leaders. The decision comes at a time when Britain is inching closer towards the October 31 deadline for Brexit.

**What is prorogation?**  
Typically, prorogation means bringing a parliamentary session to an end by the monarch on the advice of the government. In this case, Queen Elizabeth II approved Mr. Johnson’s request to suspend Parliament between

September 9-12 and October 14. Usually, Parliament is prorogued every year. But the current session began in 2017 – Theresa May, Mr. Johnson’s predecessor, didn’t recommend prorogation last year due to Brexit talks. In the new session, to be opened by the Queen on October 14, the government can present a new legislative agenda.

**What does it mean?**  
By suspending Parliament, Mr. Johnson has effectively narrowed the lawmakers’ opportunities to reject his Brexit plans. The MPs, who are currently on recess, are supposed to be back in Par-



Boris Johnson

liament on September 3. Before the suspension of Parliament, they were scheduled to be in session till September 16. This would have been crucial time for rebel MPs to come up with legislation against a no-deal Brexit, which Mr. Johnson has not ruled out. Now that Parliament will be closed on either September 9 or 12, the time available for MPs in the cur-

rent session to legislate against a potential no-deal Brexit has shrunk.

Usually, MPs go on recess in the third week of September every year for their party conferences and reconvene in early October. This year, the plan was to take break

## EXPLAINER

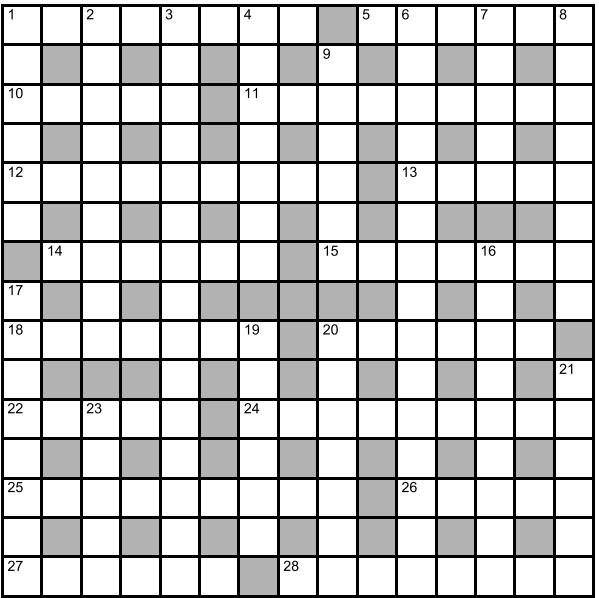
from September 17 to October 8 so that they will have at least three weeks to discuss Brexit plans before the October 31 deadline. But after Mr. Johnson’s move, the Queen will reopen Parliament on October 14. There’s an EU summit on October 17-18 in which Mr. Johnson could seek a fresh Brexit deal.

After the summit, if he has a new deal, he will present it

to the lawmakers, which means the MPs will get only nine working days to either pass or reject the deal.

**What is next?**  
Mr. Johnson’s plan is clearly to cut short the time available for MPs. With a reduced timeframe, he will try to force his Brexit legislation through Parliament. Once Parliament reconvenes, Mr. Johnson would ask the lawmakers either to support his plan or get ready for a no-deal exit. When Theresa May was the Prime Minister, MPs rejected her Brexit deal thrice. They failed to come up with an alternative plan either. MPs won’t have many options this time. The threat of no-deal will be hanging over them with the clock ticking fast.

## THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12719



- **ACROSS**
- 1 Mournful detective beginning to imbibe in bar (8)
  - 5 Exposing a Republican in endless bout of overindulgence (6)
  - 10 Poorest performance at the end in Final (5)
  - 11 Fights with endless expertise and courage to protect workers (9)

- 12 Wanting money, nasty son breaks box and takes away all the cash (6,3)
  - 13 Dame, a little risqué, naughtily showing skin (5)
  - 14 Conspire to suppress one model’s statement of grievance (6)
  - 15 Whip rogues slyly smuggling cocaine (7)
  - 18 Unpredictable rogue consumed by rage around college (7)
  - 20 Execute man beginning to agitate in base (6)
  - 22 Not many understanding? That is an art film (5)
  - 24 Rages about corrupt rat – it infuriates (9)
  - 25 Return in the future – beg your pardon? (4,5)
  - 26 Eerie moon angrily kills one ruler of Islamic country (5)
  - 27 Recruits from New Orleans not accepted (6)
  - 28 Real nasty fellow kicked out (8)
- **DOWN**
- 1 Patrol around gangster’s mansion (6)

- (set by Dr. X)
- 2 Tripper scoring ecstasy in party caught by clerk (9)
  - 3 Hit tantalising shot over point but an unexpected disappointment at the end (1,5,2,3,4)
  - 4 Yahoo holds summit, wants power to release secret information (4,3)
  - 6 Heavily equipped like a shark? (5,2,3,5)
  - 7 Emotional wife abandons champion (5)
  - 8 Fine spirit, special, comparable with rum at first (8)
  - 9 Precious stones the husband lost in upsetting narrative (6)
  - 16 Criticize worker, fellow making traditional English fare (5,4)
  - 17 Ordinary cod, one swimming in lake (8)
  - 19 Reptile in train enters toilet (6)
  - 20 Manage to get into Dubai, frantically abandoning a country in Africa (7)
  - 21 Stellar paintings put up in a sale every so often (6)
  - 23 Was sorry about stifling man’s protest (5)

## SUDOKU



Solution to puzzle 12718								
I	N	D	E	T	E	R	M	I
U	N	T	O	A	O			
U	N	C	H	I	D	E	B	O
L	L	H	O	E	S	C	R	
T	H	E	O	R	I	S	E	R
R	A	A	A	B	U	W		
A	I	R	F	L	O	W	T	R
V	S	R	A	E	L	I	E	B
O	E	O	R	I	S	E	R	I
L	I	V	E	G	L	I	T	T
E	E	T	W	E	W	N	N	
T	E	R	R	O	R	I	S	E
I	D	N	T	A	E			
B	E	Y	O	N	D	T	H	E

Solution to yesterday’s Sudoku								
7	4	2	8	5	3	1	6	9
1	9	5	6	2	4	7	3	8
8	6	3	7	9	1	2	5	4
5	7	4	2	3	9	6	8	1
9	3	6	1	8	5	4	7	2
2	8	1	4	7	6	3	9	5
6	1	9	5	4	7	8	2	3
3	2	7	9	1	8	5	4	6
4	5	8	3	6	2	9	1	7

## FAITH

# Spiritual knowledge

Studying under a guru is the only way to acquire spiritual knowledge. Mere bookish knowledge is not enough. It will not help us understand the nature of the atma, and will not pave the way for ultimate liberation. Saints and jnanis have shown us the importance of learning under a guru.

Saint Vallalar, in his *Deivamani Malai*, says that he has not kept the company of scholars. He has not thought of how to study whatever is needed for philosophical enrichment. Here Vallalar’s words remind one of verses in the *Thirukkural*, said M.A. Manickavelu in a discourse. Thiruvalluvar explains the quality of learned men. He says that a poet behaves in such a way, that once he departs, he is missed by everyone he met. Truly learned men are sweet natured and are a pleasure to talk to. They impart knowledge that will see us through the difficulties of life. It is the company of such people that he has not had, rues Vallalar. Gnansambandar says that those who are well read, those who have had the opportunity to listen to important things, those who are service-minded – all such people worship Lord Siva.

Lord Siva, in His manifestation as Dakshinamurthy, sat under a banyan tree, and taught the Sanakadi rishis. But He taught through His silence. Thirunavukkarasar says that he has not studied the Sastras and is caught in ignorance. Why have I taken this birth, asks Thirunavukkarasar, and prays for Lord Siva’s grace. Manickavachagar tells himself, “You have not understood God’s nature.” Thirunavukkarasar says that jnanis find only one fruit enjoyable, and that is God Himself. Sundarar says that he learnt many things, which are of no use in achieving liberation, but he did not acquire knowledge about God. Thus, the Nayanmars, through their many verses, show us the importance of jnana.



# PNB gets lion’s share of recapitalisation

‘After reviewing banks’ fundamentals, we see no reason for recapitalisation to exceed ₹70,000 crore’

TCA SHARAD RAGHAVAN NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday laid out the broad strokes for the recapitalisation plan for public sector banks, providing the approximate allocation breakup for about ₹55,000 crore of the ₹70,000 crore promised in the Budget.

Ms. Sitharaman, while speaking at a press conference to announce the merger of 10 public sector banks into four entities, said that the final figures for the allocation would be decided following consultation with the banks themselves, but that the figures provided on Friday were reasonably accurate.

Finance Secretary Rajiv Kumar said, as of now, the recapitalisation amount would remain at ₹70,000 crore, and added that the mergers announced on Fri-

## Money in the bank

The government has provided an approximate break-up as to how ₹55,000 crore, of the ₹70,000 crore promised in bank recapitalisation this year, will find its way into public sector banks

Amounts in ₹cr.	
Punjab National Bank	16,000
Union Bank of India	11,700
Bank of Baroda	7,000
Canara Bank	6,500
Indian Overseas Bank	3,800
Central Bank of India	3,300
Indian Bank	2,500
UCO Bank	2,100
United Bank of India	1,600
Punjab & Sind Bank	750
Total	55,250



day were all that the government had envisaged so far.

“As the Finance Minister said, the government is fully committed to making the banks robust,” Mr. Kumar said at the press conference. “However, after seeing the fundamentals of the banks

before and after the merger, we see no reason for the recapitalisation amount to exceed the ₹70,000 crore announced.”

“As of now, the roadmap for mergers is final,” Mr. Kumar added. “Twelve is the right number of banks which

should remain.” Punjab National Bank, which will now be merged with Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank, will receive the highest share of the capital infusion of about ₹16,000 crore. Union Bank of India, which is to be merged with Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank, will receive about ₹11,700 crore.

Punjab National Bank will, post-merger, become the second-largest bank in the country, after State Bank of India. The amalgamated Union Bank of India will become the fifth-largest bank.

Bank of Baroda, which had earlier been merged with Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank, will likely receive ₹7,000 crore, and will be the third-largest bank in India.

Canara Bank, to be merged with Syndicate Bank, will receive about ₹6,500 crore of the capital

infusion. It will be the fourth-largest bank in India, post-merger. Indian Bank, which will be merged with Allahabad Bank, will receive about ₹2,500 crore, and will be the seventh-largest bank.

The government also announced the tentative recapitalisation breakup for the remaining smaller banks. Of these, Indian Overseas Bank is to receive about ₹3,800 crore, Central Bank of India ₹3,300 crore, UCO Bank ₹2,100 crore, United Bank of India ₹1,600 crore, and Punjab & Sind Bank will get about ₹750 crore.

The Finance Minister had announced the ₹70,000 crore recapitalisation package for public sector banks in the Budget, and had said that given the stronger financials of the banking sector, this amount would be used as growth capital and to increase credit outflow.

# ‘Reform measures for banks already kickstarted’

Finance Minister cites reduction in interest rates, launch of more repo rate-linked loan products

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said that several steps had already been taken to implement the reform measures she had announced last week for the banking sector, including the launch of more repo rate-linked loan products by banks.

“The seven announcements we have made, particularly on the interest rate reduction and also for the banks to follow up, you’ve had quite a few product launches by the public sector banks and instructions for compliance have all been issued,” Ms. Sitharaman said

at a press conference on Friday to announce the second wave of reforms the government is initiating to revive the economy.

According to the Finance Minister, eight public sector banks have launched repo rate-linked home loans, vehicle loans, mortgage, and cash-credit loan products. Last week, she had said that the government had consulted banks and that they had agreed to launch such products aimed at ensuring the transmission of rate cuts by the RBI to end consumers.

‘Instructions given’ Ms. Sitharaman also said that instructions had been given



Nirmala Sitharaman

had said that banks would return loan documents within 15 days of the closure of the loan.

Similarly, to facilitate online tracking of loan documents, as announced last week, the Finance Minister said that such a system had been initiated, with borrowers able to track their loans on the loan management systems of their banks.

## ‘One-time policy’

The government had last week announced a transparent one-time policy that will be issued by banks to enable MSME and retail borrowers to settle their overdue. Instructions for this had been

issued to the banks, Ms. Sitharaman said.

“Particularly for the NBFCs, the support we had promised, which includes housing finance corporations, the partial credit guarantee schemes have all been executed,” Ms. Sitharaman said. “Sanction has begun with ₹3,300 crore already given, and above ₹30,000 crore is in the pipeline. So, liquidity is reaching them.”

The Finance Minister also said that the plan for the co-origination of loans between banks and NBFCs announced last week had already rolled into motion, with bank-NBFC tie-ups, with four NBFCs already in place.

# + ‘Indian Bank, Allahabad Bank merger may be a smooth affair’

‘Move will not result in branch closure, retrenchment’

N. ANAND CHENNAI

The proposed merger of Allahabad Bank with Indian Bank, as part of the mega merger plan announced by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, would be a smooth affair, said a top Indian Bank official.

“We expect this merger to be a smooth affair as we both work on the same technology platform.

## Nation-wide presence

“The merger will make us the seventh-largest bank in the country and we will have presence throughout the country. Currently, we have strong presence in the south and west, and our partner bank, in the north and east,” he added. Asserting that Indian Bank was on a stronger



Integration is expected to be easy as both banks use the same technology platform.

wicket than Allahabad Bank in terms of total business, non-performing assets, net profit and capital adequacy ratio (CAR), he said Indian Bank registered total business of ₹4.3 lakh crore as of March 31, 2019 against ₹3.77 lakh crore of Allahabad Bank.

Indian Bank’s NPA ratio stood at 3.75% and Allahabad Bank’s at 5.22%. The CAR stood at 13.21% and 12.51%, respectively.

During FY19, Indian Bank reported a net profit of ₹322 crore while Allahabad Bank incurred a loss of ₹8,334 crore.

## ‘Too early to mark date’

“The proposed merger will not result either in closure of branches or retrenchment of employees. It would be smooth as in the case of Bank of Baroda, Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank. It is too early to state the effective date of merger,” he said.

About Indian Bank’s housing subsidiary, he said: “We are very eager to commence the operations soon and plans are in place.”

# AIBEA urges govt. to review merger plan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI

The All India Bank Employees’ Association has urged the Centre to review its proposal to merge 10 public sector unit banks into four big banks.

“The need of the hour is to come out of the economic crisis, rather than experimenting with anything,” said C.H. Venkatachalam, general secretary, AIBEA.

According to him, the proposed merger would result in closure of large number of branches as it happened in the case of State Bank of India, affect banking services and reduce employment opportunities. AIBEA said it opposed the proposed merger as it would help only corporates and go against the requirements of the common people.

# ‘Merger process expected to complete by March 2020’

HR and IT are the key issues, says Canara Bank MD & CEO

MANOJIT SAHA MUMBAI

The merger process of 10 public sector banks is expected to be completed by March 31, 2020.

“March 31 could be the timeline for all the approvals. Technically it is possible to roll out on April 1,” said R.A. Sankara Narayanan, MD & CEO, Canara Bank, which will be merged with Syndicate Bank.

Mr. Narayanan is the only CEO who would have executed two public sector bank mergers in one year. Earlier, he was the MD and CEO of Vijaya Bank.

The Bank of Baroda-Dena Bank-Vijaya Bank merger, which was announced on September 17, 2018, was completed by March 31, 2019.

BANKING ON MERGERS				
Source: Union Finance Ministry				
Post-merger metrics	Punjab National Bank	Canara Bank	Union Bank of India	Indian Bank
	OBC*	Syndicate Bank	Andhra Bank	Allahabad Bank
	United Bank of India		Corporation Bank	
Rank	2	4	5	7
Number of branches*	11,437	10,342	9,609	6,104
Business (₹crore)	17,94,526	15,20,295	14,59,434	8,07,859
Net NPA ratio (%)	6.61	5.62	6.3	4.39
Number of employees	1,00,649	89,885	75,384	42,814
*Domestic   ^ Oriental Bank of Commerce (Data as per March 2019 financials)				

# Can 10 ‘weak’ banks together create four large, strong banks?

Nine have net NPAs of over 5%, close to PCA risk threshold

MANOJIT SAHA MUMBAI

Out of the 10 banks that the government has decided to merge to create four, nine have net non-performing assets (NPAs) of over 5%. Only Indian Bank’s net NPA is below 5%, at 3.75%, as on March 31, 2019.

United Bank of India, for example, has a net NPA of 8.67% as on March 31 with provision coverage ratio (PCR) of only 51.17%. As a result, the merged entity will have a net NPA of 6.61% and PCR of 59.59%.

United Bank of India is also under the prompt corrective action framework (PCA) of the RBI due to high NPA.

Punjab National Bank (PNB), which suffered a loss of about ₹14,000 crore last year in the Nirav Modi scam, has a net NPA of 6.55%, while Oriental Bank of Commerce, which came out of the PCA framework earlier this year, has a net NPA of 5.93%. These three banks will create the second largest public sector bank after State Bank of India with around ₹18 lakh crore of business.

Net NPA of 6% is one of the risk threshold of PCA, the breach of which could invite restrictions by RBI.

Both banks in the second merger – Canara Bank and Syndicate Bank – have low a

provision coverage ratio of 41.5% and 48.8% respectively. The merged entity’s PCR will be 44.32%, much lower than the regulatory comfort of 70%. The net NPAs are also high at 5.37% for Canara and 6.16% for Syndicate.

Net NPAs of all the three banks in the third merger – Union Bank, Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank – are around 6%, with Union Bank having the highest at 6.85%. Andhra Bank’s net NPA is 5.73%, while that of Corporation Bank is 5.7%. The combined NPA will be 6.3%.

## Harmony in asset quality

“The amalgamation will require harmonisation of asset quality and provisioning levels among the merging banks and may spike the credit provisions this year as was seen in the recent merger of Bank of Baroda,” said Anil Gupta, vice-president and sector head – Financial Sector Ratings, ICRA. He added that given the sizeable capital infusion being announced for amalgamating banks, the merger was unlikely to be credit negative for merging banks.

Asset quality of the fourth set – Indian Bank with Allahabad Bank – looks much better, mainly because of the lower NPA of the former. The combined net NPA is 4.39%. Indian Bank’s provi-

sion coverage ratio is, however lower, at 49.13%.

Due to high bad loans of the merged entities, profitability could be impacted in the near term.

“Merger related issues including HR/IT related synchronisation, branch rationalisation ad realigning NPAs could impact interim profitability,” said Mona Khetan, banking analyst with Reliance Securities.

## Geographical synergies

The fourth set also has geographical synergies. Allahabad Bank, headquartered in Kolkata, is stronger in east and north India, while Indian Bank has strong presence in the south.

This geographical synergy is somewhat missing in the other three sets. In the first set, both PNB and OBC are north-based, with strong presence. Similarly, both Canara Bank and Syndicate Bank have strong presence in the south. In the third set, Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank have strong presence in the south, while Union Bank is headquartered in Mumbai, with a national presence.

However, in all the four sets of merger, there is technological synergy as all the banks in a particular bucket have similar core banking solution platforms.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Rating agencies have raised concerns over the merger of public sector banks announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman citing weak asset quality, but said mergers could be credit positive.

“The announced consolidation of PSU banks is a credit positive as it enables the consolidated entities to meaningfully improve scale of operations and help their competitive position,” said Srikanth Vadlamani, vice-president, Financial Institutions Group, Moody’s Investors Service.

“At the same time, there will not be any immediate improvement in their credit metrics as all of them have relatively weak solvency profiles,” he added.

Another rating agency, India Ratings, said the absorbing banks were not necessarily in good health.

Stating that bank consolidation was a good move in a step towards improving efficiency of the PSBs, Prakash Agarwal, head – Financial Institution, India Ratings and Research (Fitch Group), said, “It is possible that the current mergers may face more friction than the last one – of BoB, Dena and Vijaya. In that case, a large, well-capitalised strong bank absorbed two much smaller entities. In the present case, the mergers are mostly among larger banks, with the absorbing bank not necessarily in strong health.”

“However, given that the merged banks are on a similar technology platform, the integration should be smoother,” Mr. Agarwal added.

The government has announced that 10 banks will get ₹55,250 crore capital out of the ₹70,000 crore that has been allocated for the current year.

# IL&FS gets binding bids for road assets

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

IL&FS has received binding bids for 10 road assets in its domestic roads transportation vertical, the company said on Friday.

The 10 road assets, which account for a total debt of over ₹17,700 crore (nearly 19% of total group debt), received 14 binding bids from multiple bidders.

“This development represents yet another important milestone in the overall resolution process for IL&FS Group being undertaken by the new board,” it said. The assets include Jharkhand Infrastructure Implementation Company Ltd., Jharkhand Road Projects Implementation Company Ltd., Moradabad Bareilly Expressway Ltd., and Chenani Nashri Tunnelway Ltd.

# Appellate tribunal dismisses govt.’s plea in Videocon case

Centre sought \$314 mn towards its share of ‘profit petroleum’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

The government’s demand to recover \$314 million along with applicable interest from Videocon Industries Ltd. towards the former’s share of profit petroleum from Ravva Oil Field has been dismissed by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).

The government, through the Petroleum Ministry, had issued a demand notice dated October 22, 2018 to Videocon Industries, raising a demand to assign and allocate 100% of the sale proceeds/oil and gas invoices in favour of the government with immediate effect. This was for recovering the provisional sum of \$314 million together with applicable interest towards the unpaid government



share of profit petroleum.

“It is open to the corporate debtor [Videocon] to recover any amount as per law and award, if any, passed in its favour. It was in this background the adjudicating authority rightly held that during the period of moratorium, the Union of India, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (Exploration Division), cannot recover any amount, nor can issue demand notice to the corpo-

rate debtor through ‘Interim Resolution Professional’ to pay any amount. In the aforesaid background, we hold that the adjudicating authority rightly stayed [the] demand notice dated October 22, 2018 during the pendency of the resolution process as long as the moratorium is applicable on the corporate debtor,” the order reviewed by *The Hindu* said.

The share of profit petroleum belongs to the Ravva Oil Field, in which Videocon Industries has 25% participating interest.

NCLAT also upheld the NCLT’s decision that Ministry of Petroleum can lodge its claim for any legally enforceable right of recovery through ‘resolution professional’, thereby not rendering it without any remedy.

# IndiGo CFO Rohit Philip resigns

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

InterGlobe Aviation on Friday said its chief financial officer Rohit Philip had put in his papers.

Aditya Pandey would replace him from September 16, the company said in a regulatory filing. Mr. Philip’s resignation is effective September 15.

The resignation has come at a time when two promoters of the airline are engaged in a feud.

The feud between IndiGo co-promoter Rahul Bhatia and Rakesh Gangwal came into public domain after Mr. Gangwal wrote to SEBI in July and sought its intervention to address the alleged corporate governance lapses at the company, charges that have been rejected by the Bhatia group.

# India Inc. hails decision on bank mergers

‘Shows resolve to address slowdown’

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The government’s move to consolidate public sector banks indicates its resolve to address the slowdown in GDP growth, as the country’s economy expanded at its weakest pace in over six years in the April-June quarter of 2019-20, industry said on Friday.

A sharp deceleration in manufacturing output and subdued farm sector activity pulled down India’s gross domestic product (GDP) growth to 5% in the April-June quarter.

The gross value added (GVA) growth in the manufacturing sector tumbled to 0.6% in the first quarter of this fiscal from 12.1% expansion a year ago.

“Well this certainly ruined my Friday & will

dampen the weekend. A lot of work to be done. But I remain steadfastly optimistic. Was pleased to see the bank consolidation announced by @nsitharaman. A ‘reform a week’ is just the kind of tonic we need...” Mahindra Group Chairman Anand Mahindra tweeted.

Now, with the government and the Reserve Bank having common prescription, the economy should bottom out soon and things should improve in the coming quarters,’ ASSOCHAM president B.K. Goenka said.

Commenting on the consolidation exercise, FICCI president Sandip Somany said “the decision reflected the government’s commitment to provide the country the financial base on which we can grow and move towards the \$5-trillion mark.”



SANGEETHA DEVI DUNDOO

We meet on a Monday morning when she has some time off work. Tabu is in Hyderabad shooting for director Trivikram Srinivas’ *Ala Vaikuntapuramlo* (In Vaikuntapuram) starring Allu Arjun and Pooja Hegde. She is also a few days away from joining Mira Nair’s sets for the six-part BBC One series based on Vikram Seth’s book, *A Suitable Boy*. Adapted by Welsh writer Andrew Davies (*Les Misérables*, *War & Peace*), it will be filmed in several locations in India, including Lucknow and Maheshwar, and she will play the court-  
san, Saeeda Bai.

In the course of our conversation, Tabu, 47, reveals an uncanny similarity of situations. She had shot for the Telugu film *Andarivaadu* (2005, Chiranjeevi-star-  
rer) just before she flew to New York for



Nair’s *The Namesake*. “It is going to be similar this time. I’ll wrap up *Ala Vaikuntapuramlo* and join Mira for *A Suitable Boy*,” she tells me.

She speaks about Hyderabad, her hometown, and taking up a Telugu film after 11 years. The actor has kept up with the changes in the industry in recent years – the ambitious pan-India films like *Saaho* and *Sye Raa Narasimha Reddy* in the post-*Baahubali* era, and the smaller, indie-spirited films like *Care of Kancharpalem* and *Mallesham*.

“Telugu cinema was in a state of flux a few years ago. Now, I feel the transition is more or less complete, the way it happened in Hindi films, with scope for different genres and stories,” she says.

Beyond leading lady

The word in film circles is that she and Malayalam actor Jayaram have been cast as Allu Arjun’s parents. Tabu smiles evasively, but shares that the two of them were supposed to work together in a Malayalam film earlier this year. However, their dates didn’t match.

Meanwhile, working in a Telugu film gives her a sense of homecoming. “When I was shooting for *Golmaal Again* in Ramoji Film City, I’d think it would be lovely to do a Telugu film again. When this project came, I was ready for it and had the time. Trivikram’s strength as a writer and director is known.”

She loves that film units in Hyderabad work from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., as opposed to the 9 to 9 shifts in Mumbai. “A lot of work gets done through the day, and I have time for friends and family in the evening. It is

There’s something about

Tabu



recuperative, which I haven’t experienced in Bombay in many years.”

She says that she is game to reconnect with Tamil and Malayalam films, too. “There’s a lot of space for characters today. The stories are no longer only about the leading man or leading lady.”

Small screen success

Does this phase help before a newer assignment? “Yes,” she says. “Being a part of such diverse projects helps me understand and appreciate the space for each.”

Though she cannot talk about *A Suitable Boy*, Tabu does share her thoughts on OTT platforms. She has watched and loved *The Crown*, *Narcos* and *Downton*

*Abbey*. She doesn’t binge; if she likes something, she watches it over a few months. “It is a world of its own,” she says, talking about new possibilities for the craft, thanks to streaming platforms.

“The lack of censorship and the freedom to develop stories and characters over 10 episodes or so, is pushing writers, directors and actors to do what it takes to keep the audience engaged,” she says.

While a few offers for web series did come her way before *A Suitable Boy*, the prospect of



She elevates a good movie, is the saving grace of the bad, guides her multilingual career easily, and is now ready for TV, with Mira Nair’s *A Suitable Boy*

working with Nair for BBC One made her agree to television instead.

Holding on to power

Today, Tabu is still one of the most exciting actors around. I remind her that it has been 25 years since she starred as the leading lady in *Coolie No. 1* (Telugu, co-starring Venkatesh) and 34 years since she played a teen in Dev Anand’s *Hum Naujawan* (1985). “Don’t even write these things,” she chides me. More than the mere longevity of her career, it is the relevance and intrigue she brings with each new project that sets her apart. And her ability to navigate even the most vapid scripts to find magic within.

Even as stars began to be propped up by PR machinery, she’d have none of it. “I don’t like complications around my work. People should be able to get in touch with me for projects, and I revert. I have my own filters,” says the two-time National Award winner (for *Maachis* and *Chandni Bar*). No manager will shortlist projects for her. “I will never give anybody that kind of power,” she laughs. “When I’ve done it for so long, I can make my own decisions. I want to make my mistakes and not other people’s. If something works, I take credit; if it doesn’t, I’ll blame myself.”

All challenges welcome

Reflecting on her choices, like *Maqbool* and *Haider* among other films, she says, “I’ve never been stereotyped. People know that I will consider different characters.” After all, she has comfortably forged a multilingual career, be it in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Bengali or Malayalam. Now, with Sriram Raghavan’s *Andhadhun* being lauded at film festivals abroad and collecting ₹330 crore in China, she says it has further opened new doors.

Blog posts are still being written, with theories dissecting the climax. “We discussed many endings while making the film, but Sriram was sure he wanted to keep it open-ended and allow the audience to become detectives,” she shares. “It is a genre-agnostic film that kept growing bigger and bigger without a marketing push. It is a rare phenomenon that a non-formula film is still being discussed a year after its release.”

Tabu is also contemplating an autobiography. She shared with scroll.in that while she’d love to, she’s not sure what to write about. “Should the book be about myself, or maybe observations...”

Apart from the bigger projects, she is doing a comic cameo for director Nitin Kakkar’s *Jawaani Jaaneman* starring Saif Ali Khan. “The producer (Jay She-wakramani) is a good friend. I was asked to do a fun cameo and shot for a week. Not every film needs to consume me in a big way. Sometimes it is nice to do roles like these, too,” she concludes.

Inside take

Mira Nair

“*The Namesake* was life-changing; I could never go back to being the same person, personally or professionally. The whole experience of working with Mira made me step up as a person and my world become richer. It opened up New York for me; I made some great friends there. I met filmmakers, photographers, actors... and worked with some brilliant minds. The movie was also instrumental in me getting to work in *Life of Pi*. Ang Lee saw me in it and cast me.”

Ang Lee

“He would try different takes for a scene, to see what more you can do as an actor, until he feels you can deliver the exact nuance he wants to convey through a dialogue or a scene. There was so much technique involved in filming *Life of Pi* – three huge 3D cameras and so on. Technical and creative experience went hand in hand [on the set].”

Vishal Bhardwaj

“I’ve known him since his debut as a music composer for Gulzar *saab*’s *Maachis*. I am so grateful Vishal had only me in mind for Nimmi in *Maqbool*. Even after so many years, people talk about the film. I cannot express the rapport I share with Vishal in words; there’s trust and a lot of respect. I can be uninhibited in his presence. With him, I don’t ask for the script; I know he has something special if he has chosen me. *Haider* was my introduction to Kashmir and also marked my reunion with my family in Kashmir.”

MF Husain

“Working with Husain *saab* was a completely different experience. He made movies for the joy of it; he didn’t care about the box office. When a group protested, he pulled *Meenaxi* from the theatres! He loved beauty and movies, and he put forth what he liked. I was young and couldn’t grasp his world. But I had a good time working with him, his son, and Santosh Sivan. It helped me see the world in a different way.”



In character (clockwise from top) Ayushmann Khurrana and Tabu at an *Andhadhun* promotion, a still from *Haider*; in *The Namesake* ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

NIHARIKA JAIN

In 2011, when most kids were enjoying their summer break from school, Kevin Missal, then 14, was busy writing a book, a fantasy fiction, based on Greek mythology. *Damien Black: The Battle of Lost Ages*, his debut novel, was published by Diamond Books, and released by Sheila Dikshit, the then-Chief Minister of Delhi.

Today, the Delhi-based author is 22, and has three national bestsellers under his name.

His latest release, in July, was the first part of *The Narasimha Trilogy*, published by Harper Collins. He’s been working on another trilogy in parallel, the first part of which came out in 2017. Named *The Kalki Trilogy*, it was published by Fingerprint.

His interest in mythology was fuelled by reading books such as the Pendragon series by D.J. Machale and the Percy Jackson series by Rick Riordan, when he was younger. He

A young fantastical fictioneer

then started exploring Hindu mythology, and connecting it to fantasy.

“Many people don’t know that mythology is a form of history, but with exaggeration – there is always a little bit of fantasy involved in it,” he says, adding that he “always wanted to write a fantasy” but thought that it might not sell in India. “So, I chose mythology, a genre far more prevalent in India, and ad-

Finding heroes Kevin Missal with one of his books

■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



An early inclination towards writing draws Kevin Missal into the world of mythology, to give us some national bestsellers, one character at a time

ded my own fantasy to it.”

Missal was influenced by reading classic English literature by authors like Charles Dickens, Mark Twain, and Robert Louis Stevenson, from a very young age. He was enamoured, he says, by the craft of writing: “If Charles Dickens can write, why can’t I?”

However, the task of finding a publisher for his book at the age of 14 was difficult. “The book was rejected by a number of publishing houses in the

beginning,” he recalls. “Our search ended with Diamond Books, who were interested in publishing it, because the owner gave the manuscript to his younger son and daughter, who really liked it and asked him to publish it.”

Through his time writing, Kevin has received support from his parents and teachers. But, it wasn’t until his first book of the Kalki trilogy, *Dharmayodha Kalki: Avatar of Vishnu* became a bestseller, that he was sure of pursuing writing as a profession. This was just after he completed his B.A. (Hons.) in History from the St. Stephen’s, Delhi University.

Missal’s readers range between the ages of 13 and 28. One reason behind choosing the character of Kalki, he says, was to create an Indian superhero for people of this demographic to look up to. He describes Kalki as an innocent boy born in the quiet village of Shambala, who goes on to de-

feat evil in the midst of betrayals and politics, thus making his story “India’s own Star Wars or Game of Thrones.”

Another character who intrigued Missal from a mythological stand point, was Narasimha. He knew that he could add a lot of value to the character along with creating awareness about his story and context. “Initially people are only looking for a good story. It is later that they go and actually research it,” he stresses.

Now, the third part of Missal’s *Kalki* series is set to be released in September. But in the meantime, he’s also working on another set of books called *The Sindbad Series*. Based on *The Arabian Nights*, it was recently acquired by Penguin Random House India, while Simon and Schuster India will publish his *Fall Of An Heir-Ravamputra Indrajith*, next year.

The *Kalki Trilogy* parts 1&2, and The *Narasimha Trilogy* part 1; each ₹250; available in stores and online

PRODUCT

To the bar



The White Teak Company, a brand known for its luxury home decor, has launched its bar-accessories collection. This includes wine holders and other pieces of home decor made of metal and wood. Whiny Baby Wine Holder, crafted in the form of a cradle, and the Wine No More Wine Holder, which, in cast iron, takes the shape of a lady, are some of the pieces.

Available on whiteteak.com and in their stores across India; upwards of ₹3,190

Contact us at delhimetro@thehindu.co.in

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE

DANCE

Classical

Bharatanatyam Guru Geeta Chandran presents a solo traditional performance by her disciple Devikaa Rajaraman. The presentation will be accompanied by Geeta Chandran on the nattuvangam, K. Venkateswaran on the vocals, Manohar Balatchandirane on the mridangam and G. Raghavendra Prasath on the violin. **VENUE:** Delhi Tamil Sangam, Sector 6, R.K. Puram **TIME:** 6:30 p.m.

CUISINE

Turkish special

A 10-day Turkish food festival is underway at Pluck, a restaurant that serves modern European and contemporary Indian flavours. Curated by chefs Ibrahim Yaman and Abdullah Olgun from Swissotel Istanbul, the menu offers local favourites of Turkey, such as Adana Kebab, Purlane, Muhammara, Haydari, and more. **VENUE:** Pluck, Pullman New Delhi Aerocity **TIME:** 7 p.m. onwards

CONCERT

Kathak and sitar

India Habitat Centre is hosting a festival of dance and music in memory of sitar maestro, the late Uma Shankar Mishra, this Sunday. The event will witness a Kathak performance by Mrinalini. This will be followed by a Hindustani classical sitar performance by Meera Prasad, accompanied on the tabla by Shailendra Mishra. **VENUE:** The Stein Auditorium, IHC **TIME:** 7 p.m.

FASHION

Annual sale

Raw Mango, a design house that says it creates new conversations around textile and culture through a range of saris, garments and objects, has organised a three-day annual sale. The collection on sale includes handwoven saris and blouses, palazzo pants, hand embroidered cotton fabrics, kurtas and dupattas. **VENUE:** Angoori Badi, Ansal Villas, Chhatarpur **TIME:** 11 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

FILM

Documentary

Kirti Film Club will be screening, *Breaking All the Way*, a Hindi and English film, this evening. Directed by Sunita Malpani, the film explores the underground hip-hop culture in India with a focus on boys, who are mostly from the underprivileged sections of society. The screening will be followed by a discussion. **VENUE:** Gulmohar Hall, IHC **TIME:** 7 p.m.



FILM REVIEWS

Missed opportunity

Riding on a staid and predictable plot, this ambitious film ends up as a disappointment

SANGEETHA DEVI DUNDOO

About an hour into *Saaho*, when a group of police officers are strategising to hunt down a smart thief, Prabhas (as police officer Ashok Chakravathy) tells his peers that the thief is most likely to know all their moves – he is smarter than the police who learns of things later. He makes a point of how the police has to think like a criminal to be a step ahead and nab a suspect. Fair enough. But, while narrating such a story on large screen, aiming to entertain the pan-Indian audience (*Saaho* was simultaneously filmed in Telugu and Hindi, and dubbed in Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam) that has watched quite a few edge-of-the-seat thrillers over the years, the writing needs to be a notch above, to maintain the suspension of disbelief and not let the audience second guess what's coming.

In *Saaho*, connecting the dots seems like child's play. The interval twist and the one at the climax don't hold any surprises.

In the fictitious Waaji City that's dominated by gangsters, Roy's (Jackie Shroff) group of companies are on shaky turf after his sudden death. An heir apparent shows up from nowhere but the power struggle continues. A black box hidden somewhere in Mumbai apparently holds the key to a locker, which will provide crucial answers to the power struggle.

Meanwhile the Mumbai police is on edge after a bunch of harmless citizens have carried out a strange set of instructions, in a chain reaction, unwittingly paving the way for a theft. A special team is formed, which includes Amrita Nair (Shraddha Kapoor), David (Murali Sharma), Vennela



**Bloated and boring** Prabhas's demeanour doesn't live up to the heroic build-up in his dialogue ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Kishore and Prakash Belawadi, among others.

*Saaho* is populated with well-known actors. Among them, Chunky Pandey as Devraj, Arun Vijay as Vishwak, Mandira Bedi as Kalki, and Neil Nitin Mukesh in a pivotal role, make their presence felt.

Jackie Shroff, Mahesh Manjrekar, Tinnu Anand and a host of others are mere bystanders without much to do. In his characteristic style, Vennela Kishore

tries to induce a few laughs but there are no smart lines or situations to help him do that.

In one scene, when Shraddha asks Prabhas if she's useful in any way to the special team, since he has all the answers himself, it's unintentionally funny. She's cast in a role that's far from a smart cop. If she looks lost, blame it on the lacklustre material she's been provided with.

Prabhas is in a shape-

shifting role that, had it been written and enacted well, would have held intrigue. Barring that 18-minute chase sequence with a Jetman action piece and some shots that present him as a suave superhero-like figure, he too looks lost. There's a thin line between projecting a casual, cool persona and coming across as disinterested. Prabhas's demeanour and laidback dialogue delivery, which sounds like a drawl, don't

Saaho

**DIRECTOR:** Sujeeth  
**CAST:** Prabhas, Shraddha Kapoor, Chunky Pandey, Mandira Bedi, Neil Nitin Mukesh, Jackie Shroff, Mahesh Manjrekar  
**RUN TIME:** 172 minutes  
**STORYLINE:** A power struggle erupts in the fictitious Waaji City. A black box in Mumbai holds the key to a truth. Can the protagonist safeguard it?

live up to the heroic build-up in his lines. It's important to show, rather than just tell, how smart a character is. That doesn't happen at all in *Saaho*.

The much-talked-about action sequences are fun to watch but not truly awe-inducing. Smart wheels for a smart thief? We've seen that in the *Dhoom* series. The protagonist standing at the edge of a skyscraper and gazing into the city at night, his brow heavy with thoughts? We've seen that in superhero films.

*Saaho* feels bloated and is boring in portions. Cinematographer Madhie, and Ghibran with his background score, try their best to dress up the film's uninspiring story.

The witty one-liners aside – like the comment about fans and die-hard fans, hitting a sixer in the stadium and not gully cricket – there isn't much to the movie, other than what's in the trailer.

*Saaho* was an opportunity to follow up on *Baahubali*, which had both scale and imagination, to blur the boundaries between regional and national cinema once again. Sadly, it ends up as a missed opportunity.

The last scene hints at a sequel. If it happens, it will need a better story and screenplay.



**No help in sight** An underwater adventure that, along with the movie itself, turns sour ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sinks before swimming

The shark attack sequel to the 2017 survival horror film bites off way more than it can possibly chew

DEBORAH CORNELIOUS

Shark attacks have been the subject of many a Hollywood film, from *Jaws* and its many sequels to *Deep Blue Sea* and *Sharknado*. The bloody subject continues to be an inexorable lure for scores of gore fiends all over the world. It's why the 2017 film *47 Meters Down* has a new sequel – *47 Meters Down: Uncaged*.

Drawing from the premise of its predecessor, *Uncaged* too features a pair of sisters, but these are step siblings united by the interracial marriage of their parents. Though inconsequential to the eventual meat of the film, there's a lacklustre beginning to *Uncaged*. Mia (Sophie Nélisse) is demure and shy and Sasha (Corinne Foxx) is outgoing and popular. Though uncomfortable with their new familial connection, a convenient series of events results in the sisters and two other friends scuba diving in a secret lagoon near a submerged Mayan city. Very quickly – due to the grating curiosity of Sasha's friend Nicole (Sistine Stallone) – this underwater adventure turns

sour. As hazy silt blinds their vision, a great white shark circles the girls. When collapsing debris covers the sole entrance and exit to the cave, the girls have to escape their finned predator while battling decreasing oxygen levels.

*Uncaged* should have been a nail-biting suspenseful survival film with loads of delicious jump scares. It's a shame that director Johannes Roberts allows the chaotic panic – replete with shrill screams – of his protagonists to eclipse the tension, fear, and claustrophobia of a deep underwater location. Even the film's antagonist, a great white shark that's evolved without vision to survive the dark of the submerged caves, is disappointing. In spite of its blindness, the fish continues to doggedly hunt its prey that aren't hurt or bleeding, ignoring its previous fresh victims, bloody and torn in half. At other times, it swims a hair's breath away from the protagonists. It's painfully evident that the creature's depicted behaviour is unnatural, forced to fit this horror film's premise.

47 Meters Down: Uncaged

**DIRECTOR:** Johannes Roberts  
**CAST:** Sophie Nélisse, Corinne Foxx, Brianne Tju, Sistine Stallone, John Corbett, Nia Long  
**STORYLINE:** Four girls are trapped in an underwater Mayan cave with a white shark on the loose and depleting oxygen tanks

Somewhere into the second half of *Uncaged*, Roberts becomes desperate for action. Oxygen levels plummet faster than expected, the sharks multiply, and any potential help is ripped to shreds. Most twists are visible from miles away. Those that occur out of the ordinary appear to be clearly arm-twisted into the screenplay.

With a weak screenplay and little to no character arcs for the film's protagonists, there's a lot swimming on the backs of the actors. Unfortunately, it doesn't bode well for a shark attack film when you're rooting for the fanged villains instead of the loud, shrieking protagonists.

POOCH CAFE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



TIGER



WUMO



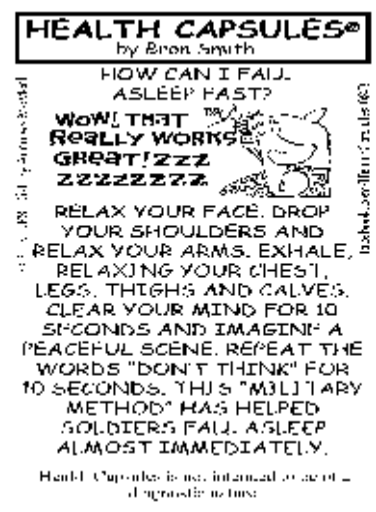
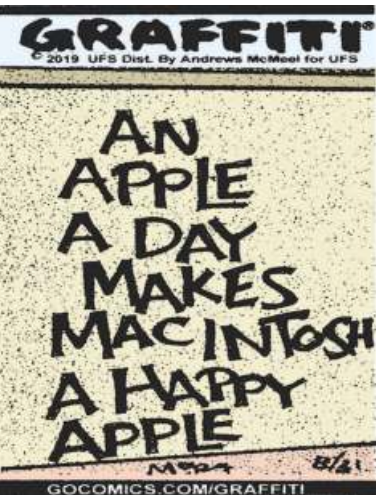
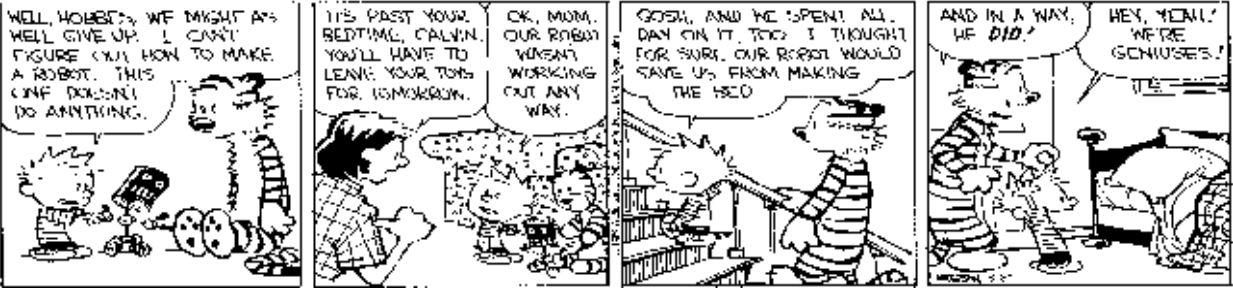
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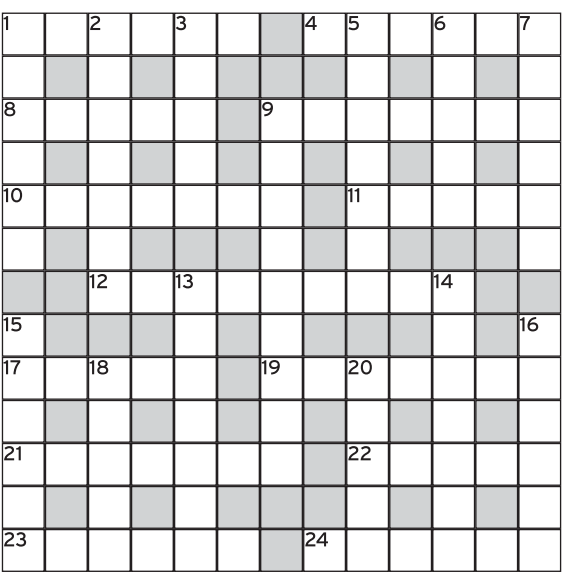
PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS



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Solution will appear in The Hindu dated September 2, 2019.

Solution No. 13162



■ SHAUN BOTTERILL/GETTY IMAGES



# Plenty at stake in season’s first North London Derby

Neither Arsenal nor Tottenham can afford a defeat in the weekend’s main-event after suffering deflating losses in Gameweek 3

**Head-to-head**  
(PREMIER LEAGUE)  
**Overall:**  
Arsenal **20**  
Spurs **12**  
Draws **22**

**At Arsenal’s home:**  
Arsenal **15**  
Spurs **2**  
Draws **10**

**Managers:**  
Emery **1**  
Pochettino **0**  
Draws **1**

**Last six games:**  
Arsenal **2**  
Spurs **2**  
Draws **2**

**Form guide**  
Arsenal  
WWL  
Spurs  
WDL

SOURCE: Premier League, whoscored.com

Both Arsenal and Tottenham Hotspur enter the season’s first North London Derby, at the Emirates Stadium on Sunday, in need of the injection of confidence that a victory over an old rival would surely bring. Both the Gunners and Spurs tasted defeat last weekend. Arsenal wasn’t able to match Liverpool’s intensity at Anfield and suffered a 3-1 reverse before Tottenham slipped to a shock 1-0 home loss to Newcastle. Neither manager can afford a derby defeat ahead of the international break, which makes Sunday’s game all the more significant.

**Third vs. seventh** Arsenal appears the better placed of the teams, and not just on the table – it’s third behind the Premier League’s undisputed top two, Liverpool and Manchester City, while Tottenham is seventh. Before the trip to Merseyside, Unai Emery’s side secured wins in its first two league games and looked settled, its transfer business done. Tottenham, on the other

hand, seems to be struggling with uncertainty. Manager Mauricio Pochettino has admitted that he is worried about the potential loss of players before the European transfer window closes on September 2, and there has been a strange mood around a club which was the Champions League runner-up last season.

In particular, Pochettino has hinted that the doubts over Christian Eriksen’s future have affected the squad. The midfielder has been linked by the Spanish media with a move to Real Madrid. With his contract expiring at the end of the season, Tottenham risks losing him for free next summer if it doesn’t sell him or sign him to a new deal. “It’s not the best situation for him [Eriksen] and for everyone,” Pochettino said. “It is not what I think the club or the player expected [it] to be. You try to minimise the problem, try to treat the situation. This is an important player who needs to help the team with his performances.” But Tottenham’s Brazilian

## Sarri’s ‘DNA distortion’ project faces stern examination

Maurizio Sarri’s move to Turin from London hasn’t quite gone to plan. Tasked with changing Juventus’ identity – from a pragmatic side that gets the job done to one that plays Sarri-ball, slicing through oppositions with slick combination football – the Bianconeri tactician endured a less-than-ideal preseason. Neither the results nor the quality of play excited comment. Indeed, the only things that were widely reported were Sarri’s little episode with Cristiano

Ronaldo after he subbed the Portuguese player off and the reaction in South Korea after the club decided not to risk its biggest asset in a friendly in Seoul.

**Under the weather** Then, Sarri was laid low by a bout of pneumonia, forcing him to miss the opening round of Serie A action. A complex challenge – ‘distorting our DNA’, as club captain

Giorgio Chiellini described the change in game-identity – was made even more difficult, with the 60-year-old Sarri forced to co-ordinate the coaching from afar, too unwell to get onto the training pitch until recently. This weekend, Juventus comes up against Napoli, the only Italian team that has really threatened it over the last few years and, just as significantly, the club



where Sarri built his legend. A cult hero during his time in Naples, Sarri will want to put his stamp on the game regardless of whether he can recover in time to return to the bench. Juventus was perceived to have taken a gamble in its appointment of Sarri – a chain-smoking iconoclast who doesn’t match the clean-cut professional image the club has cultivated. And while it will be too soon to pronounce a judgment based on Saturday’s game, Sarri can do with a positive result.

for Spurs, Kyle Walker-Peters is a doubt, as is Tanguy Ndombele, both dealing with thigh niggles. Dele Alli has a chance of returning after a hamstring injury. Emery and Pochettino have shown themselves to be fascinating in-game tacticians and their battle of wits will be just as engaging as the action on the pitch.

**Tactically versatile** So far this season, both managers have trialled the 4-2-3-1 and the 4-3-1-2 formations, and used substitutes to alter the shape and thrust of the side. Spurs have had more success getting a shot off – they’re fourth in the league with 17 shots per game whereas Arsenal has only attempted 10.7 shots per game. But in terms of the quality of these shots, Arsenal has been better, creating 1.67 chances per game to Spurs’ 1.33.

The recent history between the sides suggests it will be a tight affair, but Arsenal starts with the home advantage: Spurs haven’t beaten the Gunners away in the Premier League since 2010. SPORTS BUREAU & REUTERS

**This season**  
**Chances created per match:**  
Arsenal **1.33**  
Spurs **1.33**

**Goals scored per match:**  
Arsenal **1.33**  
Spurs **1.67**

**Goals conceded per match:**  
Arsenal **1.33**  
Spurs **1.33**

**Clean sheets:**  
Arsenal **1**  
Spurs **0**

**Most goals:**  
Aubameyang (Arsenal) **2**  
Kane (Spurs) **2**

**Trend-spotting**  
• Arsenal is undefeated in 18 of its last 19 PL home games

• Tottenham hasn’t won away in the PL in its last 7 fixtures

## WORD PLAY

### Jaffa

● **What is it?** It’s a term in cricket used to describe an unplayable delivery. It doesn’t have to claim a wicket to be anointed thus. For example, a ball that hits the top of off-stump and one that swings late to square a batsman up, leaving him poking at thin air, are both ‘jaffas’.

● **Where did the term originate?** This is unclear. Jaffa is an ancient port in Israel, where Ottoman farmers grew a special variety of orange, with a thick skin and fewer seeds. One theory is that British soldiers posted there under the Mandate for Palestine came up with the term.



● **What’s the connection?** Perhaps the ‘jaffa’ is a ball so good that the batsman would have been beaten even if the bowler had sent down an orange. There are stories of English bowlers claiming they could get great batsmen out with oranges, so the connection isn’t too far-fetched.

● **Not to be confused with** Jaffa Cakes, the biscuit-sized cakes first sold in the United Kingdom by McVitie’s. Named after Jaffa oranges, they taste of orange and chocolate. The ‘jaffa’ is as deliciously befuddling as a flavourful cake, so it’s not uncommon to mix them up.

## ON THE BOX

## STACKING UP



■ **Premier League: SAT:** Southampton v Manchester United, 4.40 P.M.; Goal Rush, 7.40 P.M.; Burnley v Liverpool, 9.40 P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 1 & HD. **SUN:** Everton v Wolves, 6.20 P.M.; Arsenal v Tottenham, 8.40 P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 1 & HD.

■ **Bundesliga: SAT:** 6.45 P.M., STAR SPORTS SELECT 2 & HD. Union v Dortmund, 9.45 P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 2 HD.

■ **Serie A: SAT:** AC Milan v Brescia, 9.30 P.M.; SONY TEN 2 & HD. **SUN:** Juventus v Napoli, 12.15 A.M.; Lazio v Roma, 9.30 P.M.; SONY TEN 2 & HD.

■ **Pro Kabaddi League: SAT:** Bengaluru v Gujarat, 7.15 P.M., Mumbai v Jaipur, 8.30 P.M.; STAR SPORTS 1, 2 & HD. **SUN:** UP v Bengal, 7.15 P.M., Bengaluru v Chennai, 8.30 P.M.; STAR SPORTS 1, 2 & HD.

■ **Belgian Grand Prix: SAT:** Qualifying, 6.20 P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 2 HD. **SUN:** Main race, 6.30 P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 2 & HD.

■ **US Open tennis: SAT:** 9 P.M., 12 A.M., STAR SPORTS SELECT 1, 2 & HD. 8.40 P.M., STAR SPORTS SELECT 2 & HD. 11 P.M., STAR SPORT SELECT 1 & HD.



ICC Test Rankings				
#	TEAM	M	PTS	RATE
1	India	33	3,763	114
2	New Zealand	25	2,736	109
3	South Africa	27	2,917	108
4	England	39	4,076	105
5	Australia	30	2,951	98
6	Sri Lanka	39	3,681	94
7	Pakistan	27	2,263	84
8	West Indies	30	2,444	81
9	Bangladesh	22	1,438	65
10	Zimbabwe	9	140	16

F1 Standings			
#	DRIVER	TEAM	POINTS
1	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	250
2	Valtteri Bottas	Mercedes	188
3	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	181
4	Sebastian Vettel	Ferrari	156
5	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	132
6	Pierre Gasly	Red Bull	63
7	Carlos Sainz	McLaren	58
8	Kimi Raikkonen	Alfa Romeo	31
9	Daniil Kvyat	Toro Rosso	27
10	Lando Norris	McLaren	24
11	Daniel Ricciardo	Renault	22
12	Lance Stroll	Racing Point	18
13	Kevin Magnussen	Haas	18
14	Nico Hulkenberg	Renault	17
15	Alexander Albon	Toro Rosso	15
16	Sergio Perez	Racing Point	13
17	Romain Grosjean	Haas	8
18	Antonio Giovinazzi	Alfa Romeo	1
19	Robert Kubica	Williams	1
20	George Russell	Williams	0

ODI Rankings				
#	TEAM	M	PTS	RATE
1	England	54	6,745	125
2	India	58	7,071	122
3	New Zealand	43	4,837	112
4	Australia	50	5,543	111
5	South Africa	47	5,193	110
6	Pakistan	49	4,756	97
7	Bangladesh	46	3,963	86
8	Sri Lanka	54	4,425	82
9	West Indies	49	3,740	76
10	Afghanistan	40	2,359	59



Top Indians ▶

Top Indians ▶

T20I Rankings				
#	TEAM	M	PTS	RATE
1	Pakistan	26	7,365	283
2	England	16	4,253	266
3	South Africa	16	4,196	262
4	India	31	8,099	261
5	Australia	21	5,471	261
6	New Zealand	16	4,056	254
7	Afghanistan	16	3,849	241
8	Sri Lanka	18	4,093	227
9	West Indies	24	5,378	224
10	Bangladesh	16	3,525	220

Men's Top Five				
#	PLAYER	EVENTS	POINTS	AVG.
1	Brooks Koepka	45	569.40	12.65
2	Rory McIlroy	48	462.04	9.63
3	Dustin Johnson	47	419.78	8.93
4	Justin Rose	49	379.98	7.75
5	Justin Thomas	49	357.91	7.30

	Gaganjeet Bhullar Rank 218		Shubhankar Sharma Rank 241
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Women's Top Five				
#	PLAYER	EVENTS	POINTS	AVG.
1	Jin-Young Ko	54	551.71	10.22
2	Sung Hyun Park	49	414.11	8.45
3	Lexi Thompson	42	271.93	6.47
4	Minjee Lee	57	352.32	6.18
5	Jeongeun Lee	53	324.60	6.12

	Aditi Ashok Rank 134		Diksha Dagar Rank 365
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Top Indians ▶

Men's Top Five				
#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Kento Momota	24	108,318	18
2	Chou Tien Chen	29	87,478	21
3	Shi Yuqi	23	89,261	16
4	Jonatan Christie	21	73,208	20
5	Anders Antonsen	22	72,949	16

	K. Srikanth Rank 10		B. Sai Praneeth Rank 15
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	Pranesh Gunneswaran Rank 88
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	ATP Ankita Raina Rank 194
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	WTA Ankita Raina Rank 194
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Women's Top Five				
#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Akane Yamaguchi	22	93,930	20
2	Chen Yu Fei	21	92,765	18
3	Tai Tzu Ying	25	92,625	15
4	Nozomi Okuhara	24	92,136	20
5	P.V. Sindhu	24	82,634	18

	Saina Nehwal Rank 8		Mugdha Agrey Rank 65
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	Saina Nehwal Rank 8
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# ‘If you don’t become one with the car, you can never win’

Rally star Gaurav Gill talks about the evolution of his driving, his philosophy of racing and what he still wants to achieve in the sport

RAYAN ROZARIO

Simple and calm off the track, he is simply in a class of his own on it. That’s rally star Gaurav Gill for you. The three-time Asia Pacific Rally champion received the Arjuna Award this week, becoming the first Indian motorsport athlete to earn the honour. After 19 years in the sport, Gill, 37, says he is not ready to hang up his helmet just yet, in this chat with The Hindu. Excerpts

Can you take us through your early years? How did it all start?

I was not racing or rallying but playing tennis because my mother liked the sport. I played pretty well and almost made it to the AITA [All India Tennis Association] level but quite soon I shifted to racing and later to rallying.

My uncle [Dicky] was rallying with the top teams and was an MRF driver for several years. So, I saw rally cars, super bikes at home and it all started from there.

I took part in an autocross event in Delhi where I borrowed my uncle’s friend’s car.

I was only 16 then but went on to win the race against the likes of Nikhil Taneja [the national champion then] and a few others. Incidentally, I had a small penalty but it was a massive achievement for me. That race, which was co-sponsored by JK Tyre and Maruti, changed my life, as Hardy [Sanjay Sharma, the head of motorsports, JK Tyre] said that day that this boy is going to be my rallying prodigy.

After a brief stint in bikes, when did you switch to cars?

As soon as I turned 18, Hardy told me it’s time to get into the car and I was soon rallying in cars. In March 2000, I took part

in the South India Rally at Chennai and won the Group N outright and came third overall. It was my biggest achievement and I was the youngest-ever winner of that category. I rallied for two more years and did the Raid de Himalaya which turned out to be a big disaster. I crashed my car and it overturned a few times.

Can you talk about your Asia Pacific Rally Championship experience with MRF?

In 2007, I did not win there. I did my testing and drove well but those cars and the speeds were a shocker to me. From a Baleno straight into an Evo9 was like going from a regular to a rocket-propelled car. Those cars were seriously fast. I actually came second fastest in Super Special stages. I was high on confidence or rather over-confident on the first day; I crashed. It was the worst crash of my life. It changed me a lot to what I am today.

That must have hurt you...

It changed my outlook towards everything, such as respecting the sport, the people and the machine. My co-driver [Glenn] McNeal taught me a lot on this and on how to win rallies. It can reflect on your driving skills too. In fact, it has to work together and you cannot be two different

personalities – in the car and out of it. I learnt the art of being one with the car. When you sit in the car, you concentrate to a level that you become part of it. You have to understand how each component works, how each millimetre of a tyre or suspension works. If you cannot feel all of that, you cannot achieve high standards of driving.

How far have you gone towards achieving that?

You will have to activate all your senses in your body to achieve these things. Everybody has that but you will have to find a way. I have found that, but, to be frank, I am still learning and evolving as a person. But today, the way I drive is all because of that. I have activated those senses. If you do not become one with the car you can never win. I am saying this at the interna-



tional level. That’s how I won the championships for MRF.

Can you talk about your World Rally Championship-2 experience last year?

Last year was a big jump to WRC and I think I proved my worth there. I won eleven stages in Australia and did a few top-five stage timings in Great Britain, Finland, Italy. I think it was a huge achievement.

How can a driver attain mastery in the sport?

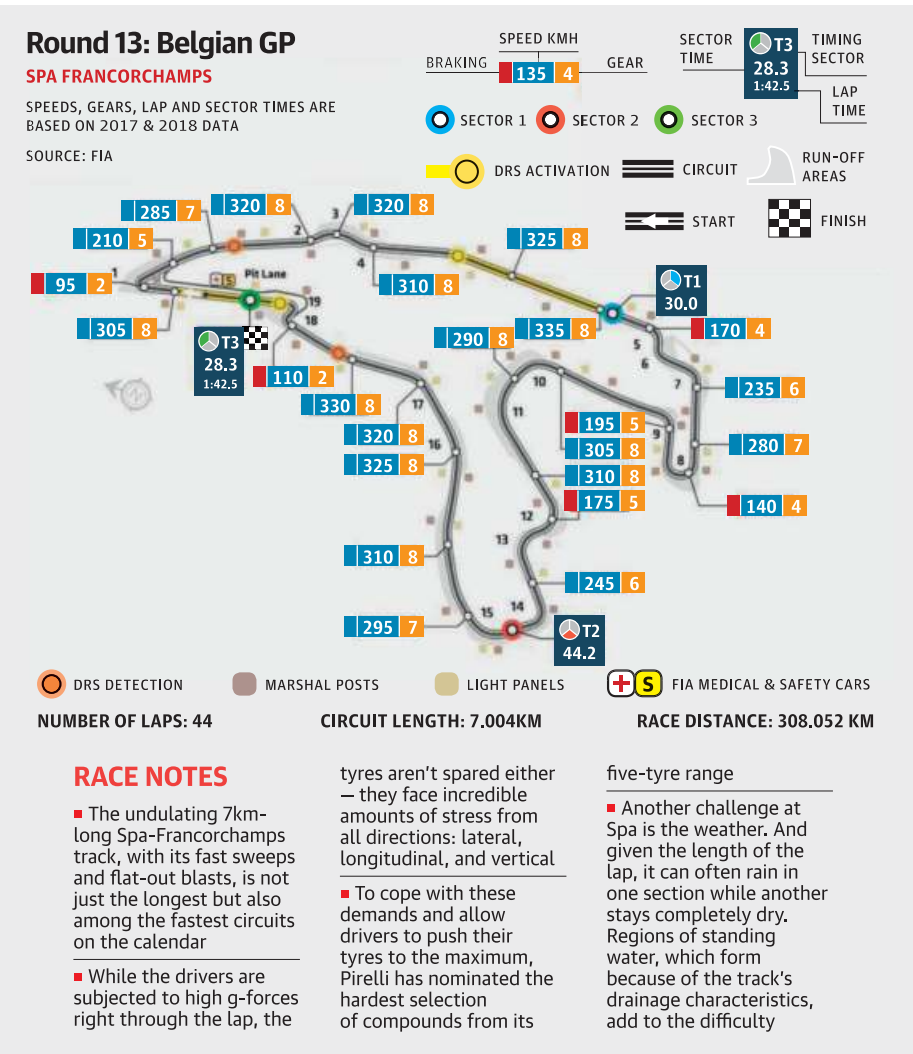
The thing that I have been working on all my life is to keep on evolving as the machines are evolving faster than us. If you can understand that, then you can come close to mastering the sport. I am also working on controlled aggression – which probably might take me all my life but that’s how all top rallying and racing drivers are in the world. You should know when to use it and should not burn your fingers using it at the wrong time or place.

Is age fast catching up with you?

Age does not really matter. People say I have three to five years but it is for me to decide when I hang up my boots.

What is your ultimate goal?

There are two things. People think I want to prove myself. I have already done that. Now, I only want to go to the world championship and win the WRC rally, not to prove that I am capable of it, but I’m saying this because I feel I belong there and I am of that calibre.



## Formula One restarts its engines in Spa

Hamilton and Mercedes will look to re-establish their dominance in the season's second half, which gets underway in Belgium after the August break

Formula One returns this weekend after its August summer shutdown, with Lewis Hamilton and Mercedes in an excellent position to settle the race for the drivers' and constructors' championships in the second half of the season.

Sebastian Vettel and Ferrari haven't put up the challenge expected of them after their encouraging performance in pre-season testing in Barcelona. Indeed, Vettel has gone more than a year since he last tasted victory — if it's any comfort, it came at the Spa-Francorchamps circuit, which will host the Belgian Grand Prix this Sunday.

Pale shadow

While the 32-year-old has looked a pale shadow of the driver that won four titles in a row, Ferrari has also failed to produce a car that can match the mighty Mercedes.

Ferrari has, however, looked better on the high-speed layouts this season. Spa and Monza, where Ferrari's home Italian GP will be held the week after, offer the team its two best opportuni-



Orientation programme: Sebastian Vettel runs up the hill at the iconic Eau Rouge-Raidillon section in Spa. ■ GETTY IMAGES

ties to win. "I think it's more power-sensitive ... but there is nothing that is given," said Ferrari boss Mattia Binotto, whose team has not won since last October's U.S. GP. Spa has been a happy hunting ground for Vettel, who has won the race three times. A fourth win would see him draw level with Kimi Raikkonen, the most successful of the current crop. But the German will first have to overcome Hamilton, also a three-time champion in Belgium and the winner of

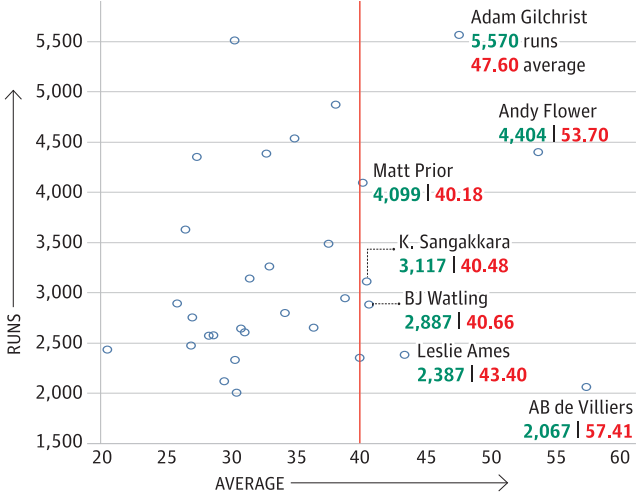
eight of 12 races this season. "We're approaching the start to the second half of 2019 more like the start to a completely new season ..." said Mercedes team principal Toto Wolff. "We're looking forward to the fight." Max Verstappen, who has won two of the last four races, will be hoping to make it a three-way battle. But his Honda-powered Red Bull could struggle to match Ferrari and Mercedes at the horsepower-dependent track. SPORTS BUREAU & REUTERS

## GAME THEORY

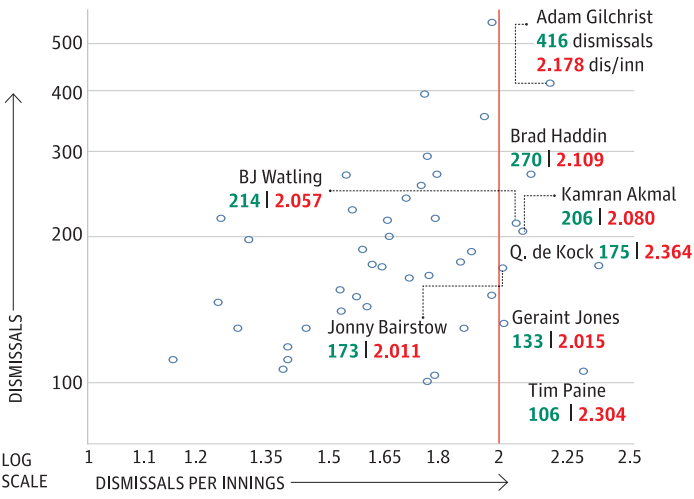
### The understated excellence of BJ Watling

The New Zealand gloveman, adjudged the 'Player of the Series' in Sri Lanka earlier this week, often goes under the radar. But the numbers suggest that he is among the best-performing wicketkeeper-batsmen in Test history

Wicketkeeper-batsmen with more than 2,000 Test runs



Wicketkeeper-batsmen with more than 100 Test dismissals



Watling is one of seven cricketers to average more than 40 when playing as the designated wicketkeeper



Watling is also one of eight keepers to average more than 2 dismissals per innings

As the scatter plots show, Watling is one of only two wicketkeeper-batsmen to average more than 40 with the bat and claim more than two dismissals per innings with the gloves. The other is Gilchrist

DATA VIZ: SUMANT SEN

## PICTURE THIS



### Roll and shoot

Wheelchair basketball has been around since the mid-1940s, when it was first seen being played in World War veterans' administration hospitals in California and Massachusetts. The sport follows most of basketball's rules, including

those specifying the size of the court and the height of the hoop. But some rules, such as the 'travel', have been adapted — the athlete isn't permitted to touch the wheels more than twice after receiving or dribbling the ball.

The 'basketball wheelchair' — seen in this photograph, taken at

St. Paul's Cathedral in London — is customised for the sport.

Each player has a different modification: guards need to move more than others and have a lower seat for increased stability; forwards and centres, who play under the net, use a higher seat that increases the reach for shots and rebounds.

The sport's main events are the World Championships and the Paralympic Games. Twelve teams are currently competing in the European Championships (August 28-September 9) in Walbrzych, Poland, to try and secure one of the four continental spots available for the Paralympic Games next year.



# Kohli's half-century keeps India going

Mayank steadies the innings initially with a fifty, after the fall of Rahul and Pujara

## INDIA IN WI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
KINGSTON

India recovered to reach 157 for three at tea on the opening day under testing conditions in the second World Test Championship match against the West Indies here on Saturday.

Skipper Virat Kohli stood firm with an unbeaten 52 with deputy Ajinkya Rahane giving him company on 20. Mayank Agarwal came good for the first time in the series with a timely half-century, before being dismissed in the second session.

Earlier the visitors laboured their way to 72 for two after opener K.L. Rahul and No. 3 Cheteshwar Pujara were dismissed cheaply in the first session. Rahul and Pujara were out for 13 and 6 respectively.

**Cautious start**

After West Indies captain Jason Holder opted to field, Rahul and Mayank negotiated the first half an hour without taking any risk on a tricky pitch.

Opening bowlers Kumar Roach and Shannon Gabriel, however, could not get much movement from the pitch.

Holder introduced himself in the seventh over and immediately got the breakthrough by having the wicket of Rahul to break the 32-run opening stand.

**Peach of a delivery**

It was a peach of a delivery which jagged away from middle stump with Rahul edging it to debutant Rahkeem Cornwall was involved in all the three dismissals

Opening bowlers Kumar Roach and Shannon Gabriel, however, could not get much movement from the pitch.

Holder introduced himself in the seventh over and immediately got the breakthrough by having the wicket of Rahul to break the 32-run opening stand.

Holder was getting the bounce and movement and Cornwall made the Indians toil for runs with his tight off-spin bowling.

India was 36 for one in 13 overs at the drinks break.

Pujara, who came after Rahul's departure in the seventh over, struggled again as he took 15 deliveries to open his account and was finally out for 6 which came from 25 balls.

**Easy catch**

The bounce extracted by 26-year-old off-spinner Cornwall, who stands at 6ft and 5 inch and weighs more than 140kg, brought about Pujara's downfall as he hit straight to the hands of Shamrah Brooks.

India was 46 for two in the 17th over at the fall of Pujara but Kohli and Mayank ensured that the visiting side did not lose any further wicket until lunch.

## SCOREBOARD

**INDIA – 1ST INNINGS**

K.L. Rahul c Cornwall b Holder 13 (26b, 2x4), Mayank Agarwal c Cornwall b Holder 55 (127b, 7x4), Cheteshwar Pujara c Brooks b Cornwall 6 (25b), Virat Kohli (batting) 52 (125b, 7x4), Ajinkya Rahane (batting) 20 (51b, 3x4); Extras (b-4, lb-7): 11; Total (for three wkts. in 59 overs at tea): 157.

**FALL OF WICKETS**

1-32 (Rahul, 6.5 overs), 2-46 (Pujara, 16.5), 3-115 (Mayank, 40.5).

**WEST INDIES BOWLING**

Roach 11-4-22-0, Gabriel 9-0-44-0, Holder 15-6-26-2, Cornwall 17-5-41-1, Chase 7-3-13-0.

**TOSS:** West Indies



**Coming good:** Mayank Agarwal made use of the the extended chance given to him by scoring a useful 50. ■ AFP

# Karun holds fort for India Red

Green bowled out for 440; off-spinner Wakhare scalps five

## DULEEP TROPHY

SHREEDUTTA CHIDANANDA  
BENGALURU

Karun Nair remained in sparkling form in the Duleep Trophy, scoring an unbeaten 77 for India Red on the second day of its clash with India Green at the Alur grounds here.

The Karnataka batsman had made scores of 99 and 166 n.o. in the previous game – scoring a First Class hundred after nearly two years – and on Friday he picked up from where he had left off.

Karun's assured half-century, which featured some attacking stroke-play against spin, led India Red to 140 for two at stumps on the second day. It came after Green had been bowled out for 440, with off-spinner Akshay Wakhare taking five for 103.

In the morning, the overnight pair of Priyank Garg and Akshay Wadkar emerged unscathed from the first hour of play.



**In good touch:** Karun Nair's assured knock helped India Red make a strong reply to India Green's huge total. ■ FILE PHOTO

**Soft dismissal**

But Garg was dismissed in soft fashion after having done the hard work. On 53, he drove left-arm spinner Sarvate to short extra-cover where Priyank Panchal held a good, low catch.

Dharmendrasinh Jadeja walked out to bat and blazed a few boundaries, as he and Akshay Wadkar added 51 for the sixth wicket. But Wakhare claimed the Saurashtra man for 37 (54b, 5x4), the left-hander also finding Panchal with an uppish drive.

It triggered a collapse, with Sandeep Warrior getting rid of Rahul Chahar and Ankit Rajpoot in quick succession.

India Green lost its last

five wickets for 35 runs as an extended first session came to a close.

“The pitch is quite flat and slow; we should have got around 550,” Jadeja admitted later.

**Surprised by the bounce**

The left-arm spinner claimed both the Red wickets to fall on the day. Panchal, who made a patient 31, was surprised by a delivery that bounced higher than normal, and the ball lobbed off his glove to first slip.

Ankit Kalsi, who was impressive in the previous fixture, slashed at a Jadeja delivery and was caught on the second attempt by Dhruv Shorey at slip.

Karun, who walked out at

one drop after Abhimanyu Easwaran had retired hurt with a gluteal strain, then took control. The Karnataka man was initially troubled by Ishan Porel, but he came into his own steadily.

He took the spinners on, as is his wont, striking 14 boundaries in all. Karun had Mahipal Lomror (22 batting) for company at the close, as the players walked off for bad light. There is still work to be done.

**The scores:** India Green 440 in 131.3 overs (Akshath Reddy 146, Dhruv Shorey 44, Siddhesh Lad 64, Priyank Garg 53, Akshay Wadkar 44, Dharmendrasinh Jadeja 37, Akshay Wakhare five for 103) vs India Red 140 for two in 45 overs (Priyank Panchal 31, Karun Nair 77 batting).

# Anderson ruled out of Ashes, Overton in

ANI  
LONDON

Pacer James Anderson has been ruled out from the remaining Ashes as England Cricket Board (ECB) on Friday announced a 13-member squad for the fourth Test match.

As Anderson was bowling in his ninth over in Lancashire's second XI four-day friendly against Durham, he became aware of right calf pain.

He immediately sought a medical assessment from Lancashire and was withdrawn from the remainder of the game. Further review with the ECB medical team confirmed his unavailability for the remaining two Test matches.

Somerset seamer Craig Overton has been added to the team.

Overton has returned to the Test squad for the first time since March 2018.



Craig Overton. ■ AFP

He will be looking to add to his three Test caps. Overton has taken 32 wickets at an average of 21.34 from eight Country Championship matches this season.

**The squad:** Joe Root (Capt.), Rory Burns, Jason Roy, Joe Denly, Jonny Bairstow, Jos Buttler, Ben Stokes, Sam Curran, Chris Woakes, Jofra Archer, Stuart Broad, Jack Leach, Craig Overton.

# Out-of-form Dhawan to play for India-A

Injured Vijay Shankar out of series

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Out-of-form senior opener Shikhar Dhawan has been included in the India-A side for the last two unofficial one dayers against South Africa-A to get back some form after a poor tour of the West Indies.

The veteran left-hander, who made a comeback from a hand fracture sustained during World Cup, totalled 65 runs across five international games, including three T20s and two ODIs.

He had scores of 1, 23 and 3 in the T20 Internationals, while he made 2 and 36 in the two completed ODIs.

“The all-India Senior Selection Committee on Friday decided to add Mr. Shikhar Dhawan to India-A squad for the fourth and fifth one-day against South Africa-A,” the BCCI said in a



Shikhar Dhawan. ■ AFP

release.

However, it was another setback for Tamil Nadu all-rounder Vijay Shankar, who is now out of the 'A' series with a thumb injury.

“Vijay Shankar has been ruled out of the series owing to an injury to his right thumb,” the press release stated.

# Titans fall short against Paltan

## PKL

ANANT KAUR  
NEW DELHI

Puneri Paltan thwarted the Telugu Titans with an all-round performance to win 34-27 on the last day of the ProKabaddi League Delhi leg at the Thyagaraj Sports Complex here on Friday.

Although Titans displayed the art of perfect defence with a record-setting seven super tackles, it was not enough to win the match.

A successful raid by Paltan's Nitin Tomar took out Abozar Mighani and Amit Kumar, which helped the team race to a five-point lead just four minutes into the game.

Titans produced five Super Tackles in the first half as Vishal Bhardwaj raced to a high-5, but the defensive masterclass was not enough to prevent an all-out in the final minute of the half



**Super raider:** Manjeet of Puneri Paltan fights past the Telugu Titans defence. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

which ended 17-14 in favour of the Pune side.

Siddharth Desai was in no mood to let Pune dominate him and started the second half positively, picking four points in his first four raids.

Desai also reached a personal milestone of 300 points in PKL.

A super raid by Paltan's Manjeet took out Vishal

Bhardwaj, Farhad Milaghardhan and C. Arun. Manjeet and Nitin Tomar took care of Paltan's raiding duties.

In the process, Nitin Tomar registered 400 raid points in the PKL. Paltan took a healthy lead before the finish line despite a late challenge from the Telugu side.

# Health scare for Richards

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
KINGSTON

Sir Vivian Richards fell ill while he was on air doing a pre-game analysis but recovered in quick time to return to commentary in the post-lunch session of the second World Championship Test between India and West Indies here.

The 67-year-old complained of uneasiness and left the ground with the help of two volunteers.

He suffered from dehydration due to excessive humid conditions.

Later, he returned to be a part of the commentary team in the second session of the match. “To all the fans around the world, I want to say I have recovered. I am OK and I have returned (to do commentary),” Richards said on air.

“No bowler in the world could do it to me, that was done by nature. We have to respect nature,” he added.

# Federer and Barty sweep into the fourth round with thumping wins

Pliskova also progresses but end of the road for Nishikori and Halep; Zverev stretched again; Kyrgios in a hurry

## US OPEN

REUTERS  
NEW YORK

After slow starts in his first matches, Roger Federer took his game up a notch with a stress-free 6-2, 6-2, 6-1 win over Briton Daniel Evans to reach the fourth round, while Alex de Minaur beat Japanese seventh seed Kei Nishikori 6-2, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3 on Friday.

The Swiss great, seeded third, was brimming with confidence from the start, taking advantage of the speedy hardcourts under the open roof at Arthur Ashe Stadium on a warm and sunny day.

Federer, seeking his sixth U.S. Open title, rifled 48 winners and 10 aces to see off the overmatched Evans, who is now 0-3 lifetime against the 38-year-old.

In the women's section, French Open champion Ash-

leigh Barty swept into the last 16 with a 7-5, 6-3 victory over Greek 30th seed Maria Sakkari. Czech third seed Karolina Pliskova was tested by Tunisia's Ons Jabeur before winning 6-1, 4-6, 6-4.

Meanwhile on Thursday, Wimbledon champion Simona Halep and Petra Kvitova suffered surprise defeats in second round action, while holder Naomi Osaka cruised through to the last 32.

American qualifier Taylor Townsend came back from a set down to beat fourth seed Halep 2-6, 6-3, 7-6(4) to consign the Romanian to a third straight early exit.

Czech sixth seed Kvitova, who has been struggling with a forearm injury this season, was far from her best in a 6-4, 6-4 defeat by German Andrea Petkovic.

The men's sixth seed Alexander Zverev was taken to a deciding fifth set for a second consecutive match as he overcame American Frances



**Big scalp:** Taylor Townsend rallied to oust Simona Halep. ■ AP

Tiafoe 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3. Three-time champion Rafael Nadal got a walkover after Australian wildcard Thanasi Kokkinakis withdrew with an injury.

In men's doubles, Indians Divij Sharan and Leander Paes made a first round exit while playing alongside Monaco's Hugo Nys and Argentina's Guillermo Duran.

Australian Nick Kyrgios let his racquet do the talking as he fired 24 aces in a convincing 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 win over unseeded Frenchman Antoine Hoang.

## IMPORTANT RESULTS

**Men: Third round:** 3-Roger Federer (Sui) bt Dan Evans (GBR) 6-2, 6-2, 6-1; Alex de Minaur (Aus) bt 7-Kei Nishikori (Jpn) 6-2, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3. **Second round:** 22-Marin Cilic (Cro) bt Cedrik-Marcel Stebe (Ger) 4-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-3; Chung Hyeon (Kor) bt 32-Fernando Verdasco (Esp) 1-6, 2-6, 7-5, 6-3, 7-6(3); Denis Kudla (USA) bt 27-Dusan Lajovic (Srb) 7-5, 7-5, 0-6, 6-3; 23-Stan Wawrinka (Sui) bt Jeremy Chardy (Fra) 6-4, 6-3, 6-7(3), 6-3; 17-Nikoloz Basilashvili (Geo) bt Jensen Brooks (USA) 3-6, 7-6(3), 7-5, 6-2; 5-Daniil Medvedev (Rus) bt Hugo Dellien (Bol) 6-3, 7-5, 5-7, 6-3; Daniel Evans (GBR) bt 25-Lucas Pouille (Fra) 6-4, 6-3, 6-7(4), 6-4; Alex De Minaur (Aus) bt 31-Christian Garin (Chi) 6-3, 7-5, 6-3; 28-Nick Kyrgios (Aus) bt Antoine Hoang (Fra) 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; 24-Matteo Berrettini (Ita) bt Jordan Thompson (Aus) 7-5, 7-6(5), 4-6, 6-1; 13-Gael Monfils (Fra) bt Marius Copil (Rou) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; 6-Alexander Zverev (Ger) bt Frances Tiafoe (USA) 6-3,

3-6, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3; Aljaz Bedene (Slo) bt 29-Benoit Paire (Fra) 4-6, 6-7(3), 6-2, 7-5, 7-6(4); 14-John Isner (USA) bt Jan-Lennard Struff (Ger) 6-3, 7-6(4), 7-6 (5); 2-Rafael Nadal (Esp) w/o Thanasi Kokkinakis (Aus). **Doubles:** Casper Ruud (Nor) & Miomir Kecmanovic (Srb) bt Leander Paes (Ind) & Guillermo Duran (Arg) 7-5, 6-2; Federico Delbonis (Arg) & Roberto Carballes Baena (Esp) bt Divij Sharan (Ind) & Hugo Nys (Mon) 6-4, 6-4. **Women: Third round:** 2-Ashleigh Barty (Aus) bt 30-Maria Sakkari (Gre) 7-5, 6-3; 3-Karolina Pliskova (Cze) bt Ons Jabeur (Tun) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4; 22-Petra Martic (Cro) bt 12-Anastasija Sevastova (Lat) 6-4, 6-3. **Second round:** 19-Caroline Wozniacki (Den) bt Danielle Rose Collins (USA) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4; 1-Naomi Osaka (Jpn) bt Magda Linette (Pol) 6-2, 6-4; 21-Anett Kontaveit (Est) bt Ajla Tomljanovic (Aus) 4-6, 7-5, 6-2; 13-Belinda Bencic (Sui) bt Alize Cornet (Fra) 6-4, 1-6, 6-2; Yulia

Putintseva (Kaz) bt 9-Aryna Sabalenka (Blr) 6-3, 7-6(3); 23-Donna Vekic (Cro) bt Kaia Kanepi (Est) 7-5, 6-3; 26-Julia Goerges (Ger) bt Francesca di Lorenzo (USA) 7-5, 6-0; 7-Kiki Bertens (Ned) bt Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (Rus) 7-5, 6-4; Taylor Townsend (USA) bt 4-Simona Halep (Rou) 2-6, 6-3, 7-6(4); 15-Bianca Andreescu (Can) bt Kirsten Flipkens (Bel) 6-3, 7-5; 25-Elise Mertens (Bel) bt Kristyna Pliskova (Cze) 6-2, 6-2; 20-Sofia Kenin (USA) bt Laura Siegemund (Ger) 7-6(4), 6-0; 16-Johanna Konta (GBR) bt Margarita Gasparyan (Rus) 6-1, 6-0; 33-Zhang Shuai (Chn) bt Ekaterina Alexandrova (Rus) 7-6(5), 4-6, 6-3; Karolina Muchova (Cze) bt 29-Su-Wei Hsieh (Tpe) 6-1, 4-6, 7-6(2); 22-Petra Martic (Cro) bt Ana Bogdan (Rou) 6-2, 6-4; 12-Anastasija Sevastova (Lat) bt Iga Swiatek (Pol) 3-6, 6-1, 6-3; 18-Qiang Wang (Chn) bt Alison Van Uytvanck (Bel) 7-5, 6-4; 30-Maria Sakkari (Gre) bt Shuai Peng (Chn) 6-7(5), 6-4, 6-2.



TV PICKS

West Indies vs India: 2nd Test, second day, Sony Ten 1 & 3 (SD & HD), 8 p.m.
India-A vs South Africa-A: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 8.45 a.m.

IN BRIEF



Kahn to replace Rummenigge as Bayern chairman

BERLIN
Ex-Germany goalkeeper Oliver Kahn will join Bayern Munich's board in January to be groomed to replace club chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, the Bundesliga giants announced on Friday.



Hoeness tells Bayern he is stepping down

BERLIN
Uli Hoeness on Thursday officially told Bayern Munich he is stepping down as president of the Bundesliga champion. At a club board meeting, the 67-year-old confirmed reports he would not be seeking re-election in November. After a knee injury forced the West German international into retirement, Hoeness became general manager in 1979 and club president in 2009.

Ding stuns Carlsen to triumph

Anand finishes joint third

SINQUEFIELD CUP

SPORTS BUREAU
SAINT LOUIS

Ding Liren shocked Magnus Carlsen 3-1 in the playoff for the Sinquefield Cup chess title here on Thursday.

A day after the two tied for the first prize at 6.5 points, following 11 rounds of classical time format, and returned to draw both games in rapid format, Ding Liren pulled off victories in both blitz games.

Viswanathan Anand, who remained unbeaten at six points for the joint third

A farcical 4x400m affair

Avinash Sable brings cheer with a new mark in the steeplechase

INTER-STATE ATHLETICS

UTHRA GANESAN
LUCKNOW

The elite men's 4x400m squad was specially flown in from its training base in Europe for the 59th inter-State Athletics Championships to give it a chance to consolidate its spot among the top 16 in the world and at the World Championships next month.

That did not happen. What transpired instead on Friday was a farce that would perhaps now force the AFI to reassess its team combination and hope one of its best medal bets stays on course for the Worlds.

The quartermilers flown in included Muhammed Anas Yahiya, Noah Nirmal Tom, Amoj Jacob and K.S. Jeevan among others. However, with three AFI teams among the seven in the race, the composition was changed on the day of the competition to include Alex Antony and Harsh Baljeet Singh, who had clocked impressive timings in the 400m earlier.

Antony (AFI-A) pulled up 200m into the third leg of the race and Anas, who was to run the anchor leg, took the baton from Sajin (AFI-B) instead and ran away! Sachin Roby, the AFI-B anchor runner, did not run. Gajana Mistry, who was to run the final leg for AFI C, too did not run



Memorable outing: Steeplechaser Avinash Sable on his way to a new meet record.

and while while AFI-B was 'Disqualified', the other two AFI teams were eventually declared 'Did Not Finish'.

Avinash Sable, who has also qualified for Worlds, meanwhile, continued his record-breaking form to set a new meet record in the 3000m steeplechase with a timing of 8:33.19.

The results: Men: 100m: 1. Vidy

rat Ali (Har, 10.66), 3. Safikul Mondal (WB, 10.69); 1500m: 1. Ajay Kumar Saroj (UP, 3:44.66), 2. Ajeet Kumar (Guj, 3:45.07), 3. Rahul (Del, 3:45.47); 110m hurdles: 1. Siddhanth Thingalaya (AFI, 13.99), 2. Maymon Paulose (Ker, 14.00), 3. Paras Patil (Mah, 14.36).

3000m steeplechase: 1. Avinash Sable (Mah, 8:33.19), 2. Durga Budha (UP, 8:57.27), 3. Rakesh Swami (Raj, 9:07.37); 4x100m: 1. Karnataka (41.43s),

2. Maharashtra (41.48s), 3. West Bengal (42.00s); 4x400m: 1. Sri Lanka (3:11.40), 2. Kerala (3:16.76), 3. Delhi (3:17.09).

Hammer throw: 1. Bajinder Singh (Pun, 63.36m), 2. Mohammed Aftab Alam (UP, 63.23), 3. Meraj Ali (UP, 60.71m); Javelin: 1. Rohit Yadav (UP, 78.98), 2. P Manu (Kar, 76.24), 3. Rajender (Har, 76.04); Long jump: 1. M. Sreeshankar (Ker, 7.83), 2. Samit Singh (UP, 7.40), 3. Rishabh Rishishwar (UP, 7.38).

Women: 100m: 1. Dutee Chand (Odi, 11.38s), 2. Archana Suseendran (TN, 11.50), 3. Himashree Roy (WB, 11.63); 1500m: 1. Lili Das (WB, 4:21.59), 2. P.U. Chitra (Ker, 4:22.03), 3. W.K.L. Arachchi Nimali (SL, 4:25.00).

100m hurdles: 1. Jyothi Yarraji (AP, 13.91), 2. C. Kanimozhi (TN, 13.94), 3. Ritwika Singh (UP, 13.98); 3000m steeplechase: 1. Parul Chaudhary (UP, 10:04.19), 2. Sudha Singh (UP, 10:04.55), 3. Priti Lamba (Har, 10:13.42); 4x100m: 1. Tamil Nadu (45.69s), 2. Karnataka (46.07s), 3. Kerala (47.17s); 4x400m: 1. Karnataka (3:39.41), 2. Kerala (3:45.64), 3. Delhi (3:46.71);

Heptathlon: 1. Sowmiya Murugan (AP, 5321 points), 2. Mareena George (Ker, 5238 pts), 3. Laimwn Nazary (Ass, 4540 pts). Shot put: 1. Abha Khatua (WB, 15.36m), 2. Navjeet Kaur Dhilun (Pun, 15.14), 3. Pinki Rawat (UP, 13.99).

Best athletes: Women: Anjali Devi (Haryana, 400m, 1145 pts.); Men: Mahdi Pirjahan (Iran, 400m hurdles, 1163). Overall champion: Kerala.

Vishnu-Raghul duel in the offing

Second round of the JK Tyre-FMSCI National racing championship from today

MOTORSPORTS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
COIMBATORE

It's going to be a tough battle between Chennai stars Vishnu Prasad and defending champion Raghul Rangasamy in the highly-competitive Formula LGB4 class in the second round of the JK Tyre-FMSCI National racing championship at the Kari Motor Speedway circuit here this weekend.

Vishnu, the MSport driver, missed the championship by a whisker last year. This time around, he seems to be pretty clear with his plan - to at

tack from the start. He proved that to a great measure and, even went on to win two races and finished second in the other to emerge the early leader with 28 points.

His teammate Raghul is equally strong. He tried hard to get the better of Vishnu only to find him win a close contest. Raghul was nevertheless pleased having won one, on top of the podium, and second and third in the other two races.

Not much to separate
It is only four points that separates him now at the top of

the table and, he is sure to come back with a bang. The duo will also have an eye on Dark Don Racing's Ashwin Datta, who is in the third position at 17 points.

Expect a keen tussle as well between Momentum Motorsports teammates Aaroh Ravindra and Chirag Ghorpade in the JK Tyre Novice Cup.

In the JK Tyre Suzuki Gixxer Cup, it has been Syed Muzammil Ali of Bengaluru all the way. He won both the races with ease take the top spot with 20 points. Pune's Tanay Gaikwad is expected to give him a run for his money.

Abira takes honours in main event

MYSURU: Arjun Mangalorkar-trained Abira (Neeraj up), won the Srikantadatta Narasimharajawadiyar Memorial Million, the chief event of the races held here on Friday (Aug. 30). The winner is owned by Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd.

1 FULL SPEED PLATE (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 00 to 25: ALEEF (Arshad) 1, Eco Friendly (Irvan) 2, Honey Trap (John) 3 and Proudwith (Indrajeet Singh) 4. Not run: Noble Splendor, Sardinia and Romantic Haven. 3/4, Shd and 2-1/2. Im, 25.65s. ₹58 (w), 13, 13 and 13 (p), SHP: 43, THP: 51, FP: 419, Q: 172, Trinella: 846 and 302. Favourite: Honey Trap. Owner: Mr. A. Wajid. Trainer: Mahmood Khan.

2 CAUVERY PLATE (1,100m), rated 20 to 45: ROYAL COMMAND (Neeraj) 1, Eddie The Eagle (Chetan G) 2, Celtic Mist (Azfar Syeed) 3 and King's Command (Arshad) 4. Not run: So Far 3/4, 3/4 and 1. Im, 05.31s. ₹26 (w), 14, 13 and 19 (p), SHP: 29, THP: 56, FP: 68, Q: 42, Trinella: Rs. 310 and 197. Favourite: Royal Command. Owner: Mr. Anil Vishwanatha Poduval. Trainer: Prashanth Pawar.

5 SRIKANTADATTA NARASIMHARAJAWADIYAR MEMORIAL MILLION (1,400m), 3-y-o only, (Terms): ABIRA (Neeraj) 1, Lady Of Luxury (Arshad) 2, Bostonia (Akshay K) 3 and Northern Alliance (Suraj) 4. Not run: Corona Del Corsa. 3/4, 3/4 and Lnk. Im, 23.33s. ₹52 (w), 14, 22 and 19 (p),

3 FULL SPEED PLATE (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 00 to 25: FOTOGENIC (John) 1, Admirable (N.B. Kuldeep) 2, All By Myself (Arshad) 3 and Lucky Isabella (T.S. Jodha) 4. Not run: Zhu Zhu Zest. 2-1/2, 1-3/4 and 3-1/2. Im, 24.79s. ₹24 (w), 10, 17 and 19 (p), SHP: 39, THP: 50, FP: 87, Q: 31, Trinella: 139 and 94. Favourite: Fotogenic. Owners: M/s. N. Venkataswamy & S. Vishwanatha Reddy. Trainer: V. Dheeraj.

4 RANGA FAMILY CUP (1,600m), rated 40 to 65: MYSTIC FLAME (Irvan) 1, Square The Circle (Darshan) 2, Wild Angles (Vaibhav) 3 and Venus Bay (Antony) 4. 3-3/4, 1-1/4 and Nk. Im, 38.11s. ₹17 (w), 15, 21 and 85 (p), SHP: 54, THP: 148, FP: 152, Q: 97, Trinella: 3,293 and 1,352. Favourite: Mystic Flame. Owners: Mr. Rienze M.K. Edwards & Mrs. P.P.M. Edwards. Trainer: Parvati Byramji.

5 SRIKANTADATTA NARASIMHARAJAWADIYAR MEMORIAL MILLION (1,400m), 3-y-o only, (Terms): ABIRA (Neeraj) 1, Lady Of Luxury (Arshad) 2, Bostonia (Akshay K) 3 and Northern Alliance (Suraj) 4. Not run: Corona Del Corsa. 3/4, 3/4 and Lnk. Im, 23.33s. ₹52 (w), 14, 22 and 19 (p),

SHP: 74, THP: 44, FP: 1,743, Q: 491, Trinella: 3,851 and 1,269. Favourite: Northern Alliance. Owner: Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd. Trainer: Arjun Mangalorkar.

6 VALAROSO PLATE (1,200m), rated 60 & above: MADURO (Arshad) 1, Intense Suspense (Sai Kiran) 2, El Tycoon (Shiva K) 3 and Star Of Thea (Md. Mushraf) 4. Not run: Spiritoous and War Hero. 1-1/2, 3-1/2 and 3/4. Im, 11.05s. ₹32 (w), 10, 10 and 19 (p), SHP: 22, THP: 63, FP: 68, Q: 17, Trinella: 276 and 236, Exacta: 760 and 652. Favourite: Intense Suspense. Owners: M/s. Gaurav Sethi & Abhimanyu Jagdish Thackersey. Trainer: Vishal Yadav.

7 REGENCY GOLD PLATE (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over: NEW BEGINNING (Srinath) 1, Ascendcy (Jagadeesh) 2, Order Order (R. Manish) 3, Blue Bird The Word (Mukesh K) 4. Not run: Jersey Bride. 3, 2-1/4 and 1-3/4. Im, 24.31s. ₹18 (w), 13, 15 and 20 (p), SHP: 33, THP: 65, FP: 84, Q: 42, Trinella: 788 and 466, Exacta: 704 and 302. Favourite: New Beginning. Owner: Mrs. Anitha Rajan. Trainer: Ranjeet Shinde. Jackpot: ₹16,137 (25 tkts.); Runner-up: 3,087 (56 tkts.); Treble (i): 96 (15 tkts.); (ii): 4,840 (one tkt.).

Spotlight on Srihari, Virdhawal, Sajan

Stars will hope to brush away the Worlds disappointment

NATL. AQUATICS

STAN RAYAN
BHOPAL

He is the country's fastest swimmer ever but Virdhawal Khade was not in his best shape at the recent FINA World Championships in South Korea last month. The 28-year-old is ready to brush away that disappointment in the 73rd Glenmark National senior aquatic championships which begin at the Prakash Tarun Pushkar pool here on Saturday.

The Tokyo Olympics 'A' qualification standard is the big goal for all the top swimmers this year and Khade is no exception.

"I will be substantially faster here than I was at the Worlds, at least half a second faster, that's the target," said the Maharashtra-born swimmer whose 50m freestyle National record (22.43s) came at the Jakarta Asian Games last year.

"However, for me this is just like a 'train through' competition, the main one will be the Asian age-group event in Bengaluru next month."

Off-colour Sajan Prakash
Sajan Prakash, who normally has a rich gold haul at the senior Nationals, was also a bit off-colour at the Worlds. In fact, his timings have dropped down disappoint-



Target in mind: Virdhawal Khade aims to be 'at least half a second' faster than he was at the Worlds.

ingly from the national records he clocked at last year's senior Nationals in Thiruvananthapuram. He seems to be stuck in a zone.

"The Worlds were not good because the taper did not go well as expected. Now also, the training has not been that great after the World Police Games, we couldn't continue training. So let's see," said the 25-year-old freestyle and butterfly star, who trains at the FINA-approved academy in Thailand, under the world body's scholarship, and also occasionally with national coach Pradeep Kumar in Dubai.

"The 200m fly is the only event I will be targeting here." Prakash has a personal best of 1:57.73s in the 200 while the Olympic 'A' standard is 1:56.48s.

All eyes will be on Karnataka's backstroke star Srihari Nataraj, the country's hot-

test swimmer this year and last after his series of national records. Srihari landed in the country just four days ago after the junior Worlds in Hungary and could be weary after a very high-pressure event.

"It will not be easy, I will be watching out for Arvind Mani and P.S. Madhu," said the 18-year-old.

The women have not exactly been in great form in recent times when compared to the men and, according to National coach Pradeep Kumar, that is a concern. Richa Mishra, Maana Patel and Shivani Kataria are some of the girls to watch out for here.

With the Asian age-group not very far, the swimmers will try to do their best to make it to the team.

After the morning heats and the evening's opening ceremony, the finals are likely to start around 5 p.m.

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# Abhishek and Saurabh make it 1-2 for India

An unbelievable spell by the two champion marksmen

## SHOOTING WC

SPORTS BUREAU  
RIO DE JANEIRO

Abhishek Verma and Saurabh Chaudhary continued their impeccable performance winning gold and bronze respectively in men's air pistol in the shooting World Cup here.

The Asian Games bronze medallist, Abhishek fired a 10.7 last shot to beat Ismail Keles of Turkey by 1.1 points. Saurabh Chaudhary followed with the bronze medal.

It was an unbelievable spell by the two champion shooters, both of whom have already won the Olympic quota.

It was the second gold for Abhishek after Beijing, while Asian Games champion Saurabh had won the gold in the Delhi and Munich World Cups.

The two had played a sterling role in India dominating



**Proud moment:** Abhishek Verma and Saurabh Chaudhary on the podium with Ismail Keles.

low with a gold each, while China is fourth with a silver and a bronze.

In men's air rifle on Friday, Asian Games silver medallist Deepak Kumar had shot 627.9 and was fourth in the first relay. He was followed by Kiran Jadhav on 627.5. The top eight qualify for the finals after the second relay.

**The results: Men: 10m air pis-**

**low** with a gold each, while China is fourth with a silver and a bronze.

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**The results: Men: 10m air pis-**

**tol:** 1. Abhishek Verma 244.2 (582); 2. Ismail Keles (Tur) 243.1 (581); 3. Saurabh Chaudhary 221.9 (584); 4. Gaurav Rana 571. **MQS:** Sarabjot Singh 581; Ravinder Singh 580.

**Women: 25m sports pistol:** 1. Veronika Major (Hun) 35 (588); 2. Xiong Yaxuan (Chn) 33 (587); 3. Chia Chen Tien (Tpe) 28 (586); 10. Chinki Yadav 584; 25. Annu Raj Singh 579; 53. Abhidnya Patil 572. **MQS:** Manu Bhaker 583; Rahi Sarnobat 580.

# Sanjeev Rajput pleased with the Olympic quota

KAMESH SRINIVASAN  
NEW DELHI

At his core, Sanjeev Rajput is a fighter. The 38-year-old former Navy shooter was at his fighting best in the 50-metre rifle 3-position event on Thursday, first in the qualifying stage and later in the final.

He delivered the Olympic quota in style with a silver medal, but conceded that he needed to “handle the situations better and improve further.”

Sanjeev – who had won the Commonwealth Games gold and the Asian Games silver last year – wants to wipe out the bad memories of missing the Rio Olympics, and said he was distracted by the crowd cheering after Petar Gorsa had fired his last shot.

“As I was about to squeeze the trigger, I lost focus because of the sound and cheering. I knew that time was running out as we have only 50 seconds for the shot.

I also thought that since I was leading by one point, even a nine would get me the gold. So, I just adjusted and squeezed the trigger. I missed the gold by 0.2 point. It was a lesson for me. I will not do such a thing in future,” said Sanjeev.

The climax was nothing compared to what he went through during the qualification in the first stage, kneeling. After releasing a good shot, Sanjeev was shocked to find the computer recording his 39th shot as zero.

“To me, it was a 10, and in the worst scenario could be 9. So, I stood up and protested. Coach Oleg Mikhailov took up the matter with the officials. After 22 minutes, I was allowed to shoot the sighters before the 40th shot in kneeling and one additional shot as well.

“Others were finishing their prone session by then. A lot of thoughts came into my mind, but it helped me focus strongly on my shoot-



Sanjeev Rajput.  
• SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ing,” recalled Sanjeev, who had to endure the suspense and mystery of the missing shot till the competition was done.

Once everyone had finished, the officials made a physical inspection of the target, and found that all the shots were in the centre. There was nothing in zero,

and upheld the protest.

“They should have given me a 10. As I had shot 10 with that additional shot, as my protest had been upheld. They gave me 9 for that shot. We are still protesting that and want the 10. It will give me a new national record of 1181,” said Sanjeev.

Quite remarkably, Sanjeev had planned to peak in August, the same month when the Olympics is held. He got a new barrel from Switzerland in July, by utilising the TOPS funding. The advance preparation at the range in Rio during a long training camp, thanks to the good offices of coach Oleg Mikhailov who had trained the Brazilians for eight years, came in handy as Sanjeev got acclimatised to his new barrel as well as the conditions.

“It was the best preparation we had. We knew every part of the range and its characteristics. The light, wind etc. play such a big part in this event,” said Sanjeev.

## Sasi Kumar in semifinals

SPORTS BUREAU  
BAOTOU (CHINA)

Sasi Kumar Mukund edged out Harry Bouchier of Australia 4-6, 6-1, 7-6(3) in the quarterfinals of the \$54,160 Challenger tennis tournament here on Friday.

In the semifinals, Sasi Kumar will play eighth seed Tung-Lin Wu of Chinese Taipei.

Sasi Kumar Mukund progressed into the doubles semifinals as well with Teymuraz Gabashvili of Russia.

**The results:**  
**\$54,160 Challenger, Baotou, China: Quarterfinals:** Sasi Kumar Mukund bt Harry Bouchier (Aus) 4-6, 6-1, 7-6(3). **Doubles:** Teymuraz Gabashvili (Rus) & Sasi Kumar bt Chun Hsin Tseng & Tung-Lin Wu (Tpe) 3-6, 6-3, [10-4].

**\$15,000 ITF men, Haren, Netherlands: Doubles (quarterfinals):** Guy Den Heijer & Sidana Pontjodikromo (Ned) bt Kristian Tam (Est) & Adil Kalyanpur 7-5, 6-4.

**\$15,000 ITF men, Hua Hin, Thailand: Doubles (semifinals):** Yu Hsiou Hsu & Wei-De Lin (Tpe) bt Anirudh Chandrasekar & Nitin Kumar Sinha 6-4, 6-3.

## Rayan Sajjid bags a double

SPORTSW BUREAU  
JALANDHAR

Rayan Sajjid dropped eight games in all in winning the under-14 and under-12 finals in the AITA Super series junior tennis tournament at the Singha Sports Academy on Friday.

In the under-14 final, Rayan beat Bharat Phulwaria for the loss of two games. He beat Dhruv Gandhas for the under-12 title.

**The results (finals):**  
**Boys: Under-14:** Rayan Sajjid bt Bharat Phulwaria 6-2, 6-0. **Doubles:** Debasis Sahoo & Navya Verma bt Svarmanju Singh & Vaheen Saumilbhai 6-2, 6-4. **Under-12:** Rayan Sajjid bt Dhruv Gandhas 6-2, 6-2. **Girls: Under-14:** Maahi Deval Shah bt Sahira Singh 6-4, 6-2. **Under-12:** Riya Sachdeva bt Sohini Sanjay Mohanty 6-1, 7-5. **Doubles:** Aakruti Narayan Sonkusare & Divya Ungrish bt Priyanka Sanjay & Prarthana Dharmesh 3-6, 6-0, [12-10].

## AICF to enquire into charges against Lahiri

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOLKATA

Strongly condemning Bengal Chess Association (BCA) secretary Atanu Lahiri’s “attitude,” the All India Chess Federation (AICF) on Friday said it would set up a committee to initiate a thorough enquiry into the charges levelled against him by Grand-master Dibyendu Barua.

AICF was upset with the treatment meted out to top GMs, such as Surya Sekhar Ganguly and Deep Sengupta. “The AICF strongly objects to the BCA passing a resolution to not invite Ganguly and Sengupta to any chess functions/activity. This is a unilateral decision taken by the office-bearers of the BCA and the AICF had no clue about it till it was brought to our notice a few days back.

### Backing the players

“The AICF stands for its players and Ganguly and Sengupta are kind of chess ambassadors who have brought so many laurels to our nation. To try and sideline them is never our agen-

da,” the AICF said in a statement.

The AICF said it stood by all the players, who are a part of its family and “anyone trying to damage their interests or goodwill will not be a part of the AICF in any capacity.”

Referring to nine-year-old Bengal girl being stopped from participating in tournaments, the AICF said it did not approve of the BCA secretary’s conduct.

On Lahiri allegedly stopping a tournament organised by Barua, the second GM from the country, the AICF said, “We received a mail from Lahiri that a certain tournament in Kolkata was not approved by the local association and hence cannot be organised.

“Lahiri or anyone in any capacity in the AICF or any other state or district association is not empowered to stop any chess tournament organised by anyone. Stopping chess activity is perceived as a serious offence by us. There is no place whatsoever for anyone who indulges in activities that are not chess-friendly.”

## Railways downs HUTN

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI

Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu (HUTN) suffered its second straight defeat while Indian Air Force started its campaign on a positive note on the second day of the MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup all-India hockey tournament at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium here on Friday.

In the last match of the day, Central Secretariat scored a last-gasp goal to draw with Indian Navy 2-2.

HUTN wasn’t consistent enough as it went down to multiple-time champion Indian Railways 3-2 in a Group B contest.

Bengaluru, after a fantastic win the other day, lost to Air Force by a solitary goal at the death in Group A.

**The results: Group A:** Indian Air Force 1 (Sukhdev Singh 59) bt Bengaluru HA O.

**Group B:** Indian Railways 3 (Parmmeet 17, P.R. Aiyappa 20, Harshab Singh 33) bt HUTN 2 (S. Mareeswaran 15, Joshua 24); Indian Navy 2 (Ajinkya Jadhav 8, Aakib A. Rahim 34) drew with Central Secretariat 2 (Dharambir Yadav 40, Govind Singh Rawat 60).

# Narwal promises greater things for self and the sport

## PKL

ANANT KAUR  
NEW DELHI

Patna Pirates’ Pardeep Narwal, nicknamed Dubki King, is one of the most successful raiders of the Pro Kabaddi League. He holds the record of an eight point raid against Haryana Steelers in Season 5 which left everyone flabbergasted. “God knows how I scored eight points in a single raid. I was surprised too and we are not taught these things in practice. We are told to just go and attack,” said Narwal.

Nawral started playing kabaddi when he was 12-years-old in his village Rindhana in Haryana because there was no other game played there. He developed interest in the game after watching his uncle play.

Slowly and steadily he also took a liking for the game but never thought that he would become a professional player someday. His passion for kabaddi made him train harder.

“Senior players used to train me because we didn’t have any special coaches. I used to work on my fitness in the morning and train in the ground in the evening everyday. My school did not have the required facility so I used to go to other villages to train,” said Narwal.

### Sweet tooth

Talking about his experience on playing Season 7 for Patna, he said, “I have improved tremendously as a player under the coaches, as they have planned a full



**Star rising:** For someone who took up kabaddi as there was no other sport to pursue in his village, Pradeep Narwal has indeed come a long way.

schedule that we need to follow. Earlier I had a sweet tooth, but now I can’t eat that because I realise that sweets slow down the body.

“I never went to gym in life but after coming here I came to know the importance of fitness, muscle strengthening, endurance and various other technical aspects of the game. I feel more energetic now after following the disciplined schedule.”

Narwal also plays for the Indian team and he sees a

great future for kabaddi in the coming years as this league has made it popular. “In PKL I can play freely and if we lose one match then there are other matches to prove whereas in other tournaments you don’t get that many chances. If I don’t get injured then I will surely reach great heights,” said the Dubki King.

Narwal will be in action on Friday when Patna Pirates battle against the home team Dabang Delhi at the Thyagaraj Sports Complex.

# It’s a day of hat-tricks

Anita the star with a double hat-trick for Colonel’s PS

## SUBROTO CUP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

It was a day of hat-tricks in the Subroto Cup girls (under-17) football tournament here on Friday.

Anita was the star with a double hat-trick for Colonel’s Public School, Gurugram.

In other matches, Anandhi and A. Durga scored hat-tricks for Govt. Girls’ Higher Secondary School, Namakkal, Tamil Nadu while Radhika and Roshni achieved the feat for local outfit Modern School, Vasant Vihar,

Also scoring hat-tricks were Nargazary for Assam’s Simbargaon High School and Nanao Devi and Barsha did it for SAI, Salt Lake, Kolkata.

**The results:**  
**Pool A:** SAI, Kolkata 9 (Barsha

3, Nanao Devi 3, Nitu 2, Khushali) bt MPHS, Ramnagar, Uttarakhand 1 (Achala); Colonel’s Public School, Gurugram 12 (Anita 7, Sulekha 2, Pooja 2, Hema) bt Birla Balika Vidyaapeeth, Rajasthan 0.

**Pool B:** Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School, Namakkal, Tamil Nadu 10 (Anandhi 3, A. Durga 3, Shanthi 2, Mahalakshmi, Parmeshwari) bt Rosary Higher Secondary School, Goa 1 (Flani Costa); KV JNU Old Campus, New Delhi 1 (Chiniatlnei) bt Dhirubhai Ambani International School, Mumbai 0.

**Pool C:** Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protisthan 3 (Aklima Khatun 2, Shita Rani Chando) bt NCC, North East Directorate 2 (Hmigthan Sangi, Miriamlalnunsiam); Taidubari High School, Amarpur, Tripura 3 (Rupasree, Ratanmala, Anjali) bt Saket International School, Anjad, MP 1 (Vandana).

**Pool D:** Modern School, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 14 (Radhika 4, Roshni 3, Esha Joshi 2, Sarah Duggal 2, Saanvi 2, Aadya Saaraogi) bt Air Force School, Bar-

rackpore 0; Rabia Balkhi, Kabul, Afghanistan 3 (Bibi Razia Noori 2, Sultana Saleh) bt GSSS, Chandigarh 0.

**Pool E:** GVHSS, Kozhikode, Kerala 3 (A. Sreelakshmi 2, V. Anjana) bt St. Columbus Collegiate School, Jharkhand 1 (Kajal Kumari).

**Pool F:** St. Joseph International School, Haryana 2 (Ritu Devi, Kavita) bt Faith Higher Secondary School, Gujarat 1 (Ishita); Nilmani English School, Imphal, 2 (Mollunsum, Hoinenat) bt Govt. Central Higher Secondary School, Aizawl 1 (Immanuel).

**Pool G:** Simbargaon High School, Kokrajhar, Assam 7 (Narzary 3, R.Boro 2, Ajuli, Sumitri) bt Usharaje High School, Kolhapur 0.

**Pool H:** Umthli Higher Secondary School, Shillong 6 (Darisha 2, Sanphida, Sunalinda, Fragrancy, T. Rympei) bt Govt. Higher Secondary School, Arunachal Pradesh 0.

# Both “an honour and a responsibility”

Award is a huge appreciation that would further fuel the Olympic quest, says Gagan Narang

KAMESH SRINIVASAN  
NEW DELHI

The vision of Gagan Narang and Pawan Singh, who initiated Gun for Glory in 2011, to make shooting easily accessible for everyone, has been a roaring success, as hundreds have been driven to world-class performances and international medals.

It was a proud moment for the two to receive the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar from the President Ram Nath Kovind at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on Thursday.

Commenting that the award was a huge appreciation that would further fuel the dream of guiding future champions to Olympic glory, the former World and Olympic medallist Gagan said that it was both “an honour and a responsibility”.

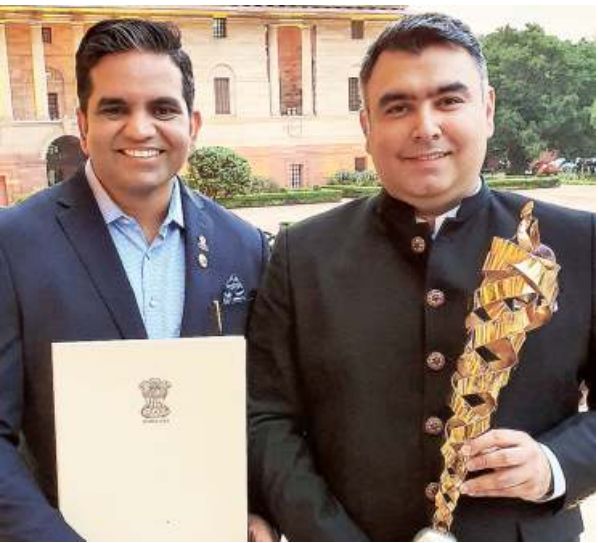
### Validation

He viewed the award as a validation for the “years of hard work” and a responsibility to “contribute more towards shaping the future”.

“We took a small step in 2011 with an aim and vision to make shooting an accessible main stream sport, and help create more medallists. Today it seems we are headed in the right direction,” he said.

Gun for Glory has 16 centres across the country. The trainees have won over 165 international medals and many are regular members of the national team.

Apart from regular shooting, the trainees are also pro-



**Recognition:** Pawan Singh and Gagan Narang who received the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan award on Thursday.

vided scholarships, the chance to train with high performance coaches, equipment support, pellet and ammunition testing, apart from professional guidance.

### Had to sell land

Gagan recalled that his parents had to sell a piece of land to buy him a rifle costing around ₹1.5 lakh. In an attempt to give something back to the sport, Gagan said that he invested all his cash award from the 2010 Commonwealth Games when he won four gold medals, in starting a project with Pawan Singh.

“I wanted to make sure that no parent had to sell his land or house to turn their kids into Olympic champions. Gun for Glory is the stepping stone towards that goal,” said Gagan.

Summing up the vision, Gagan pointed out that the whole idea was to make the sport affordable and easily accessible to everyone. “Youngsters need not give up on their dreams for lack of finances or proper infrastructure. It was also important to pass on knowledge and experience to the next generation,” said the co-founder, Pawan Singh.

### Definite target

The dream is to guide shooters to Olympic medals. “We have a definite target going towards Olympics in 2024 and 2028,” said Gagan.

He hoped that more and more corporate houses would step forward to support the cause. “We hope this award inspires others to come forward and support us in our endeavour,” Gagan said.

# Kaavya meets Pooja in u-15 final

## SQUASH

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
GREATER NOIDA

Top seed Kaavya Bansal sweated to an 11-7, 11-8, 14-16, 6-11, 11-8 victory over Tiana Parasrampuria in the under-15 girls’ semifinals of the HCL 11th Indian Open junior squash championship on Friday. In the final, Kaavya will play Pooja Arthi who eased past Aasya Patel.

**The results (semifinals):**  
**Boys: Under-19:** Yash Fadte bt Deepak Mandal 11-2, 11-4, 11-4; Neel Joshi bt Sankalp Anand 11-4, 6-11, 4-11, 11-5, 11-8. **Under-17:** Ishant Shah bt Arman Darukhanawalla 11-4, 9-11, 11-5, 11-3; Kanhav Nanavati bt Shreyas Mehta 11-7, 11-5, 6-11, 11-3. **Under-15:** Vivaan Shah bt Shaurya Bawa 11-9, 5-11, 11-9, 11-6; Krishna Mishra bt Rutva Samant 10-12, 11-9, 11-8, 11-8.

## Nod for pro boxers in amateur events

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOLKATA

In line with the International Boxing Association (AIBA) decision to allow professional boxers to compete in amateur events, including the Olympics, the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) has decided to permit professional boxers’ participation in State, National and inter-departmental tournaments.

The decision, taken by the BFI executive committee recently, will be applicable with immediate effect,

BFI secretary-general Jay Kowli said in a circular issued to affiliated units.

“However, this relaxation will not apply to boxers participating/participated (sic) in any such tournaments that are organised/conducted by unauthorised/unrecognised bodies or are not recognised by BFI.

“Such boxers will need to apply to BFI through their respective BFI member units for a ‘No Objection Certificate,” said the circular.